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The World's Daily Newspaper

Paris, Wednesday, March 18, 1998

Willey Mail To President **Was Warm And Cordial**

New Voter Surveys Show Clinton's Rating Stays High, Possibly Rising

> By Brian Knowlton International Herald Tribune

WASHINGTON - As Clinton administration aides sought to counter the by the president, polls made public Tuesday show that public support for his job performance remains at record levels and may even be rising.

Following a widely viewed television which a former White

interview in which a former White House volunteer, Kathleen Willey, ache might cused President Bill Clinton of unwanted sexual attentions during a meeting in November 1993, White House aides took the unusual step of making public notes and letters from Mrs. Willey to Mr. Clinton, some sent within days of the meeting, in which she adopts a cordial, even admiring, tone.

She signed a note sent before the meeting, "Fondly, Kathleen." In others after the meeting, she expressed a "willingness to help you in any way that I can' and referred to herself as Mr. Clinton's "number one fan."

> Women's groups shaken by Willey testimony. • Republicans uneasily ponder their options. Page 3.

C maint Robert Bennett, one of Mr. Clinton's private attorneys, suggested to an in-

motivated by financial gain.

Speaking on CNN, he said that her appearance Sunday on the television program "60 Minutes" was intended to improve prospects for a \$300,000 book deal. Her attorney later denied that.

Mrs. Willey was not paid by CBS for Mrs. Willey was not paid by CBS for the "60 Minutes" appearance, according to a spokesman at the network's headquarters. He said it was not the program's practice to pay for inter-

Brigh Alan Wels White House aides denied that they were engaging in an attempt to undermine the credibility of Mrs. Willey, a saying that they were simply trying to Empres It explain why the president was "mystified," as he said Monday, by her account

menuner when: count. The White House spokesman, Mi-ion 1206 chael McCurry, said of the strategy in making onblic the communications. making public the correspondence; "I think that there was an effort to put factual material out so that Americans could place this story in context. Obviously we hope that context is more favorable to the president. But it is not done with any sense of animosity to-

ward Ms. Willey Clinton defenders had expressed con-Teem that the televised account Sunday from a seemingly poised and reserved

See CLINTON, Page 7



Robin Cook, Britain's foreign secretary, mobbed by rightist protesters and shielded by Israeli policemen as he toured the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Har Homa on Tuesday.

Visit to Project Sparks A British-Israeli Spat

Cook Denies He Broke Word to Netanyahu

JERUSALEM - Israel and Britain engaged in full-scale diplomatic fisticuffs Tuesday over a visit by the British foreign secretary, Robin Cook, to a disputed Jewish housing project in Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said the Israeli leader had cut short a meeting with Mr. Cook and canceled a dinner after Mr. Cook surveyed the site, Har Homa, with a Palestinian

Israel said Mr. Cook had broken a promise to see the site with Israeli officials by meeting the lawmaker, Salah Ta'mari.

"I would expect from such a person who wants to help advance agreements that he himself will abide by his own agreements," Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said.

But Mr. Cook denied breaking a promise, saying that he had not agreed to shun Palestinians at the site, while British officials responded angrily to the

Israeli snub. "This is an extreme reaction and does not bode very well for the future," one British official said.

The Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, called Israel's reaction a provocation.

"I'm sorry to say that this is abnormal," Mr. Arafat told a group of visiting Egyptian reporters in

Mr. Cook, on his first Middle East tour as foreign secretary, had hoped to breathe new life into ailing Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, deadlocked since Israeli bulldozers broke ground on the hilltop site of Har Homa one year ago on Wed-

His visit to the site on the edge of Arab East Jerusalem was intended to signal British and European Union opposition to continued Jewish settlement expansion on occupied land.

See ISRAEL, Page 7

Trouble Talking the NATO Talk

3 Candidates Lag on English and Civilian Control

By Christine Spolar

WARSAW - As the U.S. Congress moves toward approving NATO expansion, the three aspirants of Eastern Europe are quietly being told to step up the pace and scope of basic reforms such as language training and civilian control of their

Diplomats and military experts from Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic acknowledge that, since invitations were offered by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in July, the countries have fallen behind in key areas that ensure compatibility with the West.

Training in English -- much touted as a goal last - is lagging in all three countries. Nearly nine years after the fall of communism, none of the armies of the three countries has more than a few hundred officers who can speak NATO-standard English, and even those figures, clearly embarrassing to some military leaders, are open to debate.

itary officers also show that the three countries still are struggling, to varying degrees, to achieve or maintain reforms such as civilian oversight of their

armies and air defense. "I know many of our politicians are lying to themselves and saying, 'They tell us we have to do these things but we probably have more time,'' said Jiri Payne, a Czech Parliament member and former deputy defense minister. "My feeling is that people here still don't understand how much we need to change our system.

NATO's criteria for admission were largely political. Aspirants were invited for their ability, in part, to foster strong, stable democracies and mar-ket reforms. Since July, after a historic summit to expand the alliance, the three countries have come under tougher reviews. None of these former Communist countries are expected to have the arms or equipment to meet NATO standards. But they are being prodded more forcefully to ensure that their armies can fully communicate and coordinate with



Gordon Brown, chancellor of the Exchequer, outlining

U.K. Puts **Work Ethic** On Pedestal

Budget Plan for 1999 Set to Raise Incentives As It Overhauls Taxes

By Tom Buerkle

LONDON - The Labour government of Britain formally enshrined the work ethic as the guiding principle of its economic policy Tuesday by announcing a major overhaul of taxes and government benefits designed to steer people toward work instead of welfare.

Gordon Brown, chancellor of the Exchequer, who outlined the measures in his first annual budget statement to the House of Commons, called the package a once-in-a-generation reform designed "to ensure that work always pays," and something "that rewards enterprise."

The government seeks, he said, to modern welf instead of trapping people in poverty, provides opportunity for all."

The centerpiece of the budget was a U.S.-style Working Families Tax Credit. The program, to be introduced in 1999, is designed to reduce bureaucracy and increase incentives to work by giving low-paid workers tax credits directly in their paychecks rather than

The chancellor of the Exchequer finds the spotlight. Page 4.

paying them separate welfare benefits. In addition, Mr. Brown announced a sharp reduction in social security payroll taxes for the low-paid and new tax breaks for child care to encourage more parents, particularly women, to

Prime Minister Tony Blair, who has elevated welfare reform to the top of Labour's agenda, called the budget a "defining moment" of his nine-monthold government. Mr. Brown also promised to keep government spending under firm control to prevent a repeat of Britain's postwar history of economic boom and bust. He said Britain was on track to run a balanced budget by 2000, and he pledged to keep it on that track by legislating a code of fiscal stability to constrain the spending powers of future governments.

The code would be a weaker version of the fiscal constraints adopted by those countries joining the single European currency and could ease Britain's eventual adoption of the euro.

The commitment to "stability and prudence" was intended to reassure financial markets as well as the millions of middle-class voters who ushered the Labour Party to power in May. But at the same time, Mr. Brown took advantage of the rapidly improving books to appeal to Labour's traditional constituency by announcing spending in-

See U.K., Page 4

Interviews with politicians, analysts and mil-See NATO, Page 4 his budget Tuesday as Prime Minister Blair listened.

Finland Aims to Give EU a 'Northern Dimension'

By Barry James International Herald Tribune

HELSINKI — When Finland joined the European Union just over three years ago, it brought with it for the first time an actual border — 1,300 kilometers long — with Russia.

Now it hopes also to bring for the first time to the 15-nation bloc a coherent strategy toward Moscow. Finland hopes to provide the EU with what Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen calls a "coordinated" Russian policy as if prepares to take over the presidency of the EU during the final six months of 1999. The formal establishment of a "Northern Dimension" to European policy could, the Finns say, be the cornerstone of the EU summit meeting in Helsinki in December 1999.

"The Helsinki summit will probably be the last big political meeting in the world in this millennium

that. Representative Christopher Smith, Republican of New Jersey, said the training program appeared "to be a dra-

matic end run around the rules that Congress has carefully prescribed for

military training and education of In-

man, Craig Stromme, said that the exercises had been conducted with many

countries and had been announced as

they occurred, Reuters reported. "We

haven't tried to keep the exercises

political and economic crisis since Pres-

dent Suharto took power in 1965. Last

week, the newly appointed defense min-ister, General Wiranto, warned that the

government would crack down hard on

demonstrators protesting repression and

The troops trained by the Pentagon

over the past five years include not only Kopassus, whose Red Berets have been

deployed this year against demonstra-

See TRAIN, Page 5

Indonesia is undergoing its greatest

[In Jakarta, a U.S. Embassy spokes-

donesian forces.

secret," he said.1

corruption.

Its Objective Is Coordination In Strategy Toward Russians

and therefore the expectations are heavy," said Petri Tuomi-Nikula; secretary-general at the Foreign Ministry for the Finnish presidency of the EU. "People are awaiting something which says something about the new millennium."

Mr. Lipponen, meanwhile, expressed disappointment at the slowness of the big EU member countries in developing common political and security policies, the most recent example of such failure being the lack of a joint position on Iraq. "They have not displayed the degree of cooperation we think is needed," he said in an interview at his office in the Parliament building here.

In northern Europe, "We need a coordinated

policy," he said. "We have to define the common interests of all our 15 members vis-a-vis Moscow, work out a practical policy and finally devise a system of coordinating those policies.'

The prime minister said that major issues were piling up, making it necessary to come to joint policy decisions quickly.

For example, he said, within 20 years the EU will

depend for up to 70 percent of its natural gas on deposits in the Barents and Kara sea areas of Russia. How will the pipelines be built and financed? Where will they end? Potential environmental disasters need to be con-

fronted. Russian nuclear-powered ships and submarines are rotting in harbors just across the frontier in the Kola Peninsula. Deteriorating Chernobyl-type nuclear reactors near St. Petersburg need to be de-

See FINNS, Page 7

AGENDA

Senate Panel Clears Bill to Reform IMF

Despite a Ban, U.S. Trains Indonesian Military Units

By Tim Weiner New York Times Service

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon has been training Indonesian military forces since 1992, despite a congressional ban intended to curb human rights abuses by those soldiers, Defense

Department documents show. The Indonesian forces trained by the Pentagon include a special-forces commando unit called Kopassus, which human rights groups say has tortured and killed civilians. The unit has received training from U.S. special-operations soldiers in skills like psychological warfare and reconnaissance missions.

Pentagon officials said the training program was entirely legal, since it took place under a program different from the one curtailed by Congress. Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre said in a letter to a member of Congress last month that the training "enhances rather than diminishes our ability to positively influence Indonesia's human lights policies and behavior."

Some members of Congress question

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The Intermarket

thanking China's congress for naming him prime minister. Page 5.

The package, which includes \$18 billion for the fund, was approved by a JAL's Top 2 to Resign **Over Looming Losses** The president of Japan Airlines Co., Akira Kondo, said that he and the com-

International Monetary Fund.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) --- The

U.S. Senate Appropriations Commit-

tee approved compromise legislation

on Tuesday to fund and reform the

pany's chairman, Susumu Yamaji, would resign over losses stemming from increased competition and failed resort developments. JAL forecast a group net loss of 70 billion yen (\$502 million) for the year, 65 billion yen more than its earlier estimate. Page 13.

Nations, the committee did not include funding to pay for U.S. arrears to that world body. The bill calls on the IMF to be more

vote of 26 to 2. In a snub to the United

open to congressional audits and reviews. It also urges countries that receive IMF aid to treat domestic and foreign creditors more equally and comply with international trade rules. It requires regular reports by the Treasury on IMF operations.

Books	Page 10.
Crossword	Page 10.
Opinion	Pages 8-9
Sports	Pages 20-21.

Brain (and Muscle) Drain Over, Irish Head Home

By John Burgess

DUBLIN - Sons and daughters of Ireland, come

The call is going out as the long-blighted island they left is reborn as the booming "Celtic Tiger," and they are heeding it, reversing one of the largest and longest

migrations in history. Aine O'Dwyer quit a job at the World Bank in Washington to help sell computers here. Maurice McKiernan left carpentry work in London to get in on a Dublin construction boom. Fergus and Mary Delargy came back from 11 years in New York and New

Mexico to open a pottery business. "I see a lot of opportunity now," said Jimmy Harrington, 31, as he prepared to leave New York to work in Dublin for the U.S. financial services company Bankers Trust. "There was no opportunity when

PAGE TWO

The numbers are comparatively small - in the year ending in mid-April last year, Ireland took in about 5,000 more people than it sent abroad, some of them foreigners. But the impact on the national spirit is

almost immeasurable. A departure abroad used to be like a death in the family. The person was gone forever, and over the decades the pain of separation helped to define Irish life. It hit just about every family — the island's population of 5.2 million today is down from a peak of about 8 million in 1845, largely as a result of emig-

But now there is a very good a chance that a recently departed family member will return.

'It's an historical change,' said Mary Corcoran, a sociologist at the National University of Ireland who

has studied reversal of the flow. "We've always seen ourselves as an emigrant country," she said, adding, "The story of the '90s is people coming home."

Resettling the newcomers has become something of a cottage industry. Bookstores offer titles that advise on how to find a job, where to go for the singles scene, what's available in theater. Real estate agents work with those who return to find apartments and houses. Government agencies coach them on such things as how to transfer their health insurance from their former country of residence. .

They return to a country that is Europe's great success story of economic expansion and keeps chugging along despite the collapse of "miracle" economies in Asia. Through a combination of deregulation, low taxes, dogged promotion and hard work, Ireland

See IRISH, Page 7



Time Finally Grounds the Original Air Force One

By Steve Vogel Washington Post Service

ASHINGTON — It carried President John F. Kennedy to Berlin in 1963, and later that year brought his body home from Dalias. Lyndon B. Johnson was sworn in as president on board, Richard Nixon flew it to China and last year the blue and white Boeing 707 ferried Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to Hong Kong for ceremonies marking the transfer of the British colony to China.

But now the air force is getting ready to retire the plane known as SAM 26000, or — as it is more commonly known under the call sign it carried for more than 35 years whenever the president was on board — Air Force One.

This is one of those bittersweet moments, Brigadier General Arthur Lichte, commander of the 89th Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, said Monday. "We're getting ready to say good-bye to probably our most historic air-

SAM 26000 has given way over the years to more modern aircraft as the first choice in presidential flying. But the redoubtable plane remained a mainstay of the fleet used by high-ranking Executive Branch officials — last year it made 200 flights to 58 countries.

Now, however, the air force has decided that high maintenance and operating costs mean that it is time for retirement. The plane will fly its last operational mission later this month, be officially retired in May and then go on permanent display after a final flight to an air force base in Ohio.

On Monday, a retired air force chief master sergeant, Joe Chappell, and two other former crew members boarded their old plane for one of its last flights, a two-hour media tour. Mr. Chappell was on board the day SAM 26000 (SAM standing for

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Special Air Missions, and 26000 the tail number) arrived at Andrews in October 1962, replacing a

smaller, slower Boeing.

Mr. Kennedy had decided that the new aircraft needed a distinctive look. The result has carried on more or less unchanged to this day: a blue and white color scheme with "United States of America"

emblazoned on the side of the fuselage.

The jet carried Mr. Kennedy to Berlin in June 1963, where he delivered his "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech to an enormous, cheering crowd. "We'll never have another day like this one," Mr. Kennedy told aides upon reboarding Air Force One. Nearly six months later, Mr. Chappell was aboard

the flight to Dallas. He recalled Monday how happy the Kennedys had seemed at the start of the trip. "It

was a day of happiness," he said.

Waiting at Love Field in Dallas while the president visited the city, the crew received word of the shooting. When they learned that the hearse was bringing Mr. Kennedy's body back to Air Force One, it was Mr. Chappell who led the effort to cut open a bulkhead and remove seats in order to fit the coffin. "It just struck me that we could not put the fallen president's body in the cargo compartment,' Mr. Chappell said.

OME of Mr. Kennedy's aides pushed for an immediate takeoff after the body was on board, but the vice president decreed otherwise. "Johnson came up to the cockpit and told us we weren't going anyplace — we were waiting for the judge' for the swearing-in ceremony, Mr. Chappell said.

In the years that followed, SAM 26000 took Mr.

Johnson to Vietnam several times. Mr. Nixon rode it to the Pacific Ocean to greet the Apollo 11 astronauts back from the moon. It was SAM 26000 that spirited Henry Kissinger off to Paris for secret negotiations with the North Vietnamese starting in 1970.

Flights Resume in Cairo

CAIRO (AFP) - A sandstorm with winds of up

to 70 kilometers per hour disrupted air traffic for a third straight day Tuesday, Cairo airport officials

But after more than two hours of stoppage because of visibility reduced to 150 meters (500

The authorities also said the Mediterranean port

feet), flights resumed at the airport, they said.

After Mr. Nixon's groundbreaking trip to China in 1972, SAM 26000 moved into a backup role with the arrival of a new Boeing 707.

It moved further into the background in 1986, when Boeing 747s were purchased for the new Air Force One fleet.

AM 26000 continued flying, primarily carrying vice presidents and secretaries of state and defense, but also every president, including Bill Clinton.

In 1981, it carried three former presidents — Mr. Nixon, Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter - to the funeral of President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. Nonetheless, it was Secretary of State Alexander Haig, representing President Ronald Reagan, who commandeered the choice conference room.

"The pecking order was quite unusual," said a retired chief master sergeant, Stan Goodwin, who served as radio operator. "I remember at one point you had three presidents and Dr. Kissinger all standing in line waiting to use the bathroom," Mr. Goodwin said. "That was pretty interesting."

The crews that operate it today consider SAM 26000 a great flier and maybe the most reliable aircraft in the fleet.

"If you took a poll, you'd find it's about every-one's favorite plane," said Major Scott Turner, the pilot for the flight Monday. "I really love this airplane," said Master Sergeant Rick Parker, the flight engineer. "It's paid its dues. It's time to give

In January, when another jet carrying President Clinton got stuck in the mad in Champaign, Illinois, AM 26000 came to the rescue.

On hand as a backup - standard procedure for any presidential flight - the old plane took Mr. Clinton on board and flew him back to Washington, adopting the call sign Air Force One for what was probably the last time.

of Alexandria remained closed Tuesday.

Thais to Double Airport Tax

on Tuesday a doubling of Bangkok's International Airport departure tax to 500 baht (\$12.40), effective April 1, a spokesman said. The tax at three

other international airports — Chiang Mai, Hat Yai

and Phuket -- will also be raised to 500 baht.

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BANGKOK (AP) — The government approved

Ankara Survives Vote Over Head-Scarf Ban

By Stephen Kinzer
New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — A bright-eyed medical student hardly seems the sort to touch off a national crisis, but Tuloy Erdogan and her friends are at the heart of an intense new conflict between secularism and conservative Islam in Turkey.

Many Turks thought this conflict was resolved last year when the Islamicoriented government of Necmettin Erbakan was forced out of power. In the last few weeks, however, the conflict has erupted anew, complete with sharp warnings from top military commanders, dire predictions by politicians, mass demonstrations and pledges of undying defiance from devout Muslims.

Although the conflict, over a ban on the wearing of traditional Islamic head carves, had appeared to threaten the government of Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz, it defeated a parliamentary challenge Tuesday, Reuters reported from Ankara. The National Assembly voted, 266 to 213, to reject a motion to censure Education Minister Hikmet Ulugbay over the ban.]

The main battleground in this lates confrontation is the campus of Istanbul University. That is where Miss Erdogan, 23, attended medical school until two months ago, when she was turned away for wearing the traditional Islamic head scarf.

Miss Erdogan's troubles began when the government, evidently acting at the behest of military commanders, issued a decree in January demanding that school administrators strictly enforce the secular dress code. The code, which dates from 1925, bans clothing that is deemed religious. It was first imposed by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, founder and first president of the Turkish Republic, as part of his revolutionary restructuring of a society that had been ruled for centuries

by a highly traditional theocracy. When Miss Erdogan arrived to take a surgery examination at the end of January, she was turned away because she was wearing a head scarf. She was later forbidden to take other exams, and since the new term began last month she and scores of her classmates have been prevented from attending classes.

The decree was quickly embraced by the rector of Istanbul University, Kemal Alemdaroglu, who since taking office in December has shown himself to be an aggressive defender of secular principles. He ordered an absolute ban on head scarves, triggering a wave of angry demonstrations at which thousands of conservative Muslim students were joined by others who denounced the decree as undemocratic.

Mr. Alemdaroglu, faced with an incipient uprising, agreed to postpone the ban on head scarves until September. He insisted, however, that it be enforced at the medical school, arguing that since most doctors in Turkey work at state hospitals where head scarves are banned,

tom themselves to going bareheaded.

Those who oppose the Muslim students accuse them of using the scarves and the argument of religious freedom to disguise larger motives - ultimately, support for an Islamic theocracy.

Miss Erdogan denied in an interview that her scarf has political meaning. "We love God, we read our Koran, we believe in our religion, and we want

WEATHER



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Istanbul University students in Islamic garb walking on campus in the were no front of a statue of Ataturk, who first imposed the secular dress code. In add that developed

to apply this religion in our lives," Miss of Kithleen Will Erdogan said. "What has happened in the last few weeks makes me very light in a religion

angry."
"It's bad to become a fanatic," she added, "but they are pushing us toward" fanaticism."

Secularists, however, are convinced that even if young women like Miss Erdogan are sincere in asserting that they have no political motive, fundamentalists are quietly rejoicing at the political firestorm they have sparked.

"The head scarf is a symbol which represents an ideology," said Toker Dereli, an economics professor and member of the administrative board at Istanbul University. Many people who like to see the scarves would also like to see a regime like the one in Iran. That suggests a totalitarian approach."

■ Ciller Escapes Prosecution

Turkey's appeals court ruled Tuthat former Prime Minister Tansu Ciller could not be prosecuted on the basis of an allegation that she misused a government slush fund, Reuters reported. Prosecutors had objected in January to a previous appeals court decision that appeared to exoperate Mrs. Ciller from claims that she gave three embezzlers money from the fund to aid her conservative True Path Party.

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Under New Pact, U.S. Airlines Gain 106 Japan Flights

TRAVEL UPDATE

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Transportation has approved 106 new weekly flights to Japan under an agreement resulting from the recently updated aviation pact between the two countries.

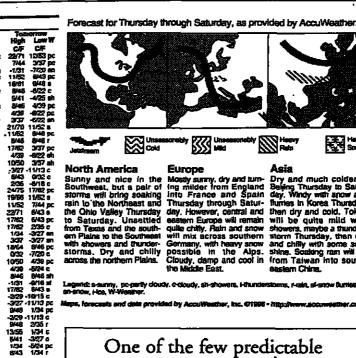
The agreement, announced Monday, tentatively awards the flights to six airlines: American, Delta, Continental, Hawaiian, Northwest and Trans World Airlines.

The cities awarded the new service to Japan are: Atlanta; Boston; Chicago; Dallas/Fort Worth; Detroit; Houston; Maui, Hawaii; Los Angeles; Newark, New Jersey: New York; Portland, Oregon; San Francisco and St. Louis.

Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater and Japan's transport minister, Takao Fujii, signed the agreement - which updated a 46-yearold "open skies" treaty over thê weekend.

Japan's No. 2 carrier, All Nippon Airways, gained unrestricted rights to a number of U.S. destinations. Japan Airlines, the country's largest passenger carrier, already had unrestricted access to U.S. cities under the original agreement.

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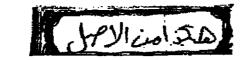
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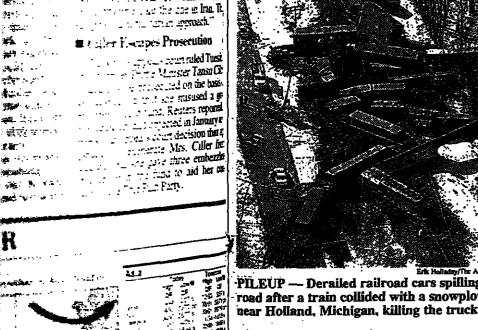
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letanbul Eniversity students is these gurb walking on campi from a statue of Ataun a timp sed the secular drama

as the appearance of a former White House aide, Kathleen Willey, on CBS's "en week Mike Mig Color Deserte a family 18 mony and public allegations that Mr.

The second of touring women like # g market at ethern and nome in rammin in maint first in the main are ymbol wiz and the second section of the second section of the second TOTAL CONTRACT PROFESOR E _____ Construction of Many people wi

e sa ould also like.



PILEUP — Derailed railroad cars spilling onto a road after a train collided with a snowplow truck near Holland, Michigan, killing the truck driver.

Away From Politics

In the first such sustained deployment of B-2 Stealth bombers, the air force said it would send two of the hightech jets to Guam from March 23 to April 3, for training operations. The planes, along with about 200 personnel will deploy from the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri, to Andersen Air Base on the

• A navy communications satellite that will relay spy photos and intelligence reports for the Defense Department has gone into orbit. The ultrahigh-frequency satellite, the eighth in a series of 10, should be operational by June. It is the first in the fleet to have a Global Broadcast-Service communications system that will speed up the transmission of data to U.S. military forces equipped with small receiving terminals.

• A Wall Street banker plans to donate millions of dollars to help thousands of poor Los Angeles children aftend the private schools of their choice in the fall of 1999, mirroring a similar philanthropic effort in Washingion. The corporate takeover specialist Theodore Forst-mann said the Los Angeles effort would be a larger Version of the project he initiated last fall with the Wal-Mart heir, John Walton, in which the pair donated So-million to give vouchers to 1,000 children in Wash-

The post office has decided to stop closing post Offices. Postmaster General Marvin Runyon announced a moratorium on closings intended to consolidate routes

WASHINGTON — Kathleen Willey's detailed description of President

farmer White House employee, and her

apparent lack of an ideological ax to grind

have prompted the heads of such groups as the National Organization for Women, the National Abortion and Reproductive

Rights Action League and 9-to-5 to aban-

don public neutrality and become much

"I heard her story, and this was a

woman who sounded credible, who told

By Guy Gugliotta

ashington Post Service

WASHINGTON - The House Re-

mblican leadership is uneasily mulling

over actions it could take against President Bill Clinton should the independ-

ent counsel, Kenneth Starr, send his

evidence to Capitol Hill, and is finding

most options — including impeachment
— to be fraught with political risk,

Thus far, Newt Gingrich, the House

speaker, Henry Hyde, the Judiciary

Committee chairman, and other Repub-

lican leaders have shown no appetite for

an impeachment inquiry, according to

sources familiar with the leadership dis-

cussions. These sources said that they

considered the discussions preliminary

and sensitive, and would talk about them only if they were not identified.

the sources said that developments such

"60 Minutes" Sunday had to be con-

Whether or not her grand jury testi-

sidered largely in a political context.

Reflecting the profound uncertainties,

according to Republican sources.

more critical of the president.

insky, whose story goes back and forth, Bill Clinton's alleged attempt to kiss and you don't know what to believe,"
Ms. Michelman said, adding that Ms.
Lewinsky "hasn't indicated any difficulty; whatever happened, she was a
willing participant." and grope her has fractured the support Mr. Clinton has been receiving from a key constituency: the leaders of liberal omea's rights groups.
The credibility of Mrs. Willey, a

"Kathleen Willey told a different story," Ms. Michelman said. "She was an

unwilling participant."
The White House immediately tried to counter the impression of defections among women. The Democratic National Committee directed reporters to officials of the Women's Leadership Forum, a Democratic group.

Cynthia Friedman, a former national chairman of the group, said: "This is

Clinton groped her in the White House

help Mr. Starr's investigation, the con-

gressional sources said the developments

would have to cause a sharp downturn in

the president's popularity and a con-

sequent decision by at least some Demo-

crats to abandon him before Republicans

his cautious rhetoric. Speaking Monday in Smyrna, Georgia, he called Mrs. Wil-

ley's allegations "a very sobering sto-

ry" from one of several "credible wit-

nesses who have to at least be given a

there is a list of other possible actions

the House could take, each of which will

require the House leadership to make

Starr's motivation, the sources said. Does

he have evidence of impeachable "high

crimes and misdemeanors?" Does he

have something less than that? Or is he

just "punting to Congress," in the words

Republican leadership did not find the

evidence compelling, it had no obligation

The sources pointed out that if the

of one source, because he has no case?

The first of these is to determine Mr.

dangerous preliminary decisions.

Still, even without impeachment,

chance to have their story examined."

Publicly, Mr. Gingrich maintained

Impeachment? An Uncertain Road

Wary House Republicans Weigh Options and Gauge Political Risks

would consider impeachment.

by Paula Jones and more recently with allegations that he had sex with Ms. Lewinsky, a former White House intern, women generally have supported him, and leaders of liberal women's groups have remained neutral on, if not sym-

pathetic to, his plight.

Women were crucial to Mr. Clinton's victory in 1996. If the election had been conducted only among men, Bob Dole would be president, elected by a onepoint margin, 44 percent to 43 percent. Mr. Clinton, however, defeated Mr. Dole among women by an overwhelm-

ing 54 percent to 38 percent.

While cautioning that nothing has been proved, Patricia Ireland, president

to accept it, and the case could end there. If it found the evidence strong enough to

'cause concern'' but not merit impeach-

ment, one source said, the leadership

could simply decide to publish it, or vote

some kind of "censure" against Mr.

Clinton, an idea first advanced by the

Without an anti-Clinton groundswell,

none of these options is likely to win wide

approval, the sources said, and each is

likely to enrage someone: Republican conservatives furious because the House

is "copping out," said one source;

Democrats furious at a Republican "witch hunt," or voters furious at the

The sources said some members of

the leadership have raised the possi-

bility of creating a select committee to

evaluate Mr. Starr's evidence, or even to

committee, however, "would be widely

viewed as an unprecedented and un-

principled act of partisanship," Representative Charles Canady, Republican

of Florida, wrote Mr. Gingrich in a letter Mr. Canady's office made public Tues-

public silence about the event

and released a statement that

harshly criticized their fa-

Caroline Kennedy

objects that are in the sale.

It was most pointed attack

stirred controversy and ques-

had wrongfully taken or held

day, The Associated Press reported.]

'JFK Papers' - The End?

Former Paralegal Lived High on \$7 Million

From Forgery, Mail Fraud Indictment Says

NEW YORK — A former ther's longtime secretary,

paralegal has been arrested on Evelyn Lincoln, for taking

federal charges that he forged many of the personal items the documents that he sold to being put up for sale, The collectors around the country

New York Times reported.

Kennedy to a grab bag of sin- pleaded in the statement is-

By Blaine Harden

Washington Post Service

for \$7 million on a claim that

Lawrence Cusack 3d,

whose "JFK papers" tantal-

ized and tempted the invest-

igative repôrter Seymour

ABC networks before being

discredited last year, was ar-

rested at his home in the posh

New York suburb of South-

port, Connecticut, and later

He was charged with mail

A federal indicument said

weekend house in South-

eral luxury cars after he began

ister behavior.

released on bail.

fine of up to \$250,000.

[The appointment of a special House

hounding of a popular president.

conduct an impeachment inquiry.

Senate majority leader, Trent Lott.

compelling than seeing the words on paper," Ms. Ireland said, referring to Mrs. Willey's appearance Sunday on the CBS news program "60 Minutes." "I have to say she has a great deal of credibility." Ms. Ireland said in an in-

On CNN, Ms. Ireland commented on Mrs. Willey's remarks on CBS and her deposition: "If it's true, it's sexual assault. He put his hand on her breast. He put her hand on his erection.

Now we're talking about, really, sexual predators and people who in positions of power use that power to take advantage of women," Ms. Ireland

Ms. Ireland still came under fire from the political right, where leaders accused her Monday of changing her time because public opinion was likely to shift against Mr. Clinton or because members of the National Organization for Women are demanding that she take a tough stand.

Anita Blair, executive vice president of the Independent Women's Forum. said: Ms. Ireland's statement was made 'not out of any concern about what the truth might be" but what her organization would support.

Susan Carpenter-McMillan, an adviser to Mrs. Jones, was asked Monday on the NBC show "Today" about Ms. Ireland's strong response regarding Mrs. Willey after providing "very little support for Paula Jones."

Ms. Carpenter-McMillan declared that Ms. Ireland "has ruined the women's movement.

'She's ruined the issue of sexual harassment," Ms. Carpenter-McMillan said. "One more time, we see a pattern of the only women that are going to be defended by Patricia Ireland and the likes

are older, more educated Democrats."
In an interview Monday, Ms. Michelman said she defends Mrs. Jones's right to pursue her case, but added that her organization, the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, was not going "to jump on board in response to allegations promoted and funded by groups that have worked hard to deny women their constitutional and legal rights."

Representative Nita Lowey, a Democrat of New York and a longtime Clinton supporter, called Mrs. Willey's allegations "very serious and very troubling for those of us who have fought so hard against sexual harassment."

Anita Perez Ferguson, president of the bipartisan National Women's Political Caucus, said that while she considered the allegations "serious and disturbing," she wanted to remain circumspect.
"This is private litigation," she said.

"It is grand jury testimony. With that in mind, we only have a few pieces of the

POLITICAL NOTES



Johnny Chung, left, and the California businessman's attorney, Brian Sun, speaking to the media after his court bearing in Los Angeles.

Chung Pleads Guilty On Funding Abuses

LOS ANGELES — In a deal with government prosecutors, the Califor-nia businessman and Democratic fund-raiser Johnny Chung has pleaded guilty to bank fraud, tax evasion and conspiracy in connection with \$20,000 in illegal contributions to the

Clinton-Gore re-election campaign.

Mr. Chung, the fourth person charged in five weeks in an investigation of campaign finance abuses, has agreed to cooperate with authorities. Sentencing was set for July 20. He could face up to 37 years in prison and fines of more than \$1 million.

Mr. Chung, 43, admitted in federal court Monday to trying to exceed individual limits on campaign donations by reimbursing 20 contributors \$1,000 each for money they gave in a 1995 fund-raiser here. Mr. Chung also pleaded guilty to making \$8,000 in illegal donations to Senator John Kerry, Democrat of Massachusetts, in a 1996 event in Beverly Hills.

Mr. Chung's lawyer, Brian Sun, said his client would answer any questions by the federal Campaign Finance Task Force, which is investigating alleged campaign finance

Clinton Nominee For Judge Bows Out

WASHINGTON - Faced with probable rejection by the Senate, a Pennsylvania state judge has withdrawn her nomination for the U.S. District Court bench.

Judge Frederica Massiah-Jackson, who would have been the first black

woman to sit on the U.S. District Court in Philadelphia, withdrew in a letter to President Bill Clinton that asserted she had been subjected to an "unrelenting campaign of vilification and distortion" in a "politicized environment."

Republican leaders argued that she was soft on crime, biased against police and given to profanity from the bench, and said she would have been overwhelmingly rejected by the Senate in a vote that had been scheduled for Wednesday.

Senator Orrin Hatch, Republican of Utah and chairman of the Judiciary Committee, said: "Given the strong, bipartisan opposition from law enforcement groups, her demonstrated leniency in sentencing convicted criminals and the Judiciary Committee's concerns about her lack of candor throughout the nomination process, I believe withdrawing the nomination is the right thing to do."

Dissenting from that view, Senator Arlen Specter, Republican of Pennsylvania and a senior Judiciary Committee member, who led the fight for his fellow Pennsylvanian, praised her "tenacity and courage." He also criticized the committee's handing of the nomination, including a second hearing last week during which he said Judge Massiah-Jackson was asked de-tails she could not possibly have remembered from cases 15 years ago.

Pennsylvania's other Republican senator, Rick Santorum, defended the handling of the nomination and said he would have voted against it.

If she had been rejected in a vote, Judge Massiah-Jackson would have been Mr. Clinton's first judicial nomince to be turned down by the Senate, even though Republicans have been waging a protracted battle with the administration over what they describe as "liberal" and "activist"

Sweepstakes Firm to Tone Down Pitch they linked President John F. John Kennedy Jr. also

WASHINGTON — After

sued Monday with the auction's principal contributor, years of sending bulging en-velopes promising "You're onr newest winner," Amer-Robert White, to return four Mr. White received many Hersh as well as the NBC and of the items that are to be ican Family Publishers agreed auctioned from Mrs, Lincoln's to stop using the slogan and will dole out \$1.25 million to estate after her death in 1995. "It is now clear that Mrs. 25 states to settle allegations

that it misled consumers. Lincoln took advantage of her position as our father's sec-The agreement awards retary, and later as the cus-\$50,000 to each of the 25 todian of objects intended for states and sets guidelines for fraud and, if convicted, faces the Library, by taking home up to five years in prison and a with her countless documents when the term "winner" can be used. It also requires the company to emphasize that and objects that had belonged to our father and the United sweepstakes participants do not need to buy a magazine

subscription. The company has "finally been stopped in the mislead-ing scam they have been runhampton, New York and sev- yet on an auction that has selling the JFK papers in 1993. tions of provenance for Before that, he had worked as months. Arlan Ettinger, presning all these years," said Michigan's attorney general, Frank Kelly, who has been active in a task force investigating the sweepstakes. "They should be ashamed of themselves for this despicable fraud."

American Family Publishers - half-owned by Time subsidiary of Time Warner Inc., and half-owned by private investors — sends out more than 200 million sweepstakes entry forms a year. The television personalities Ed McMahon and Dick Clark, the sweepstakes' spokesmen, have been featured in the campaign, designed to tout discount

magazine subscriptions. The company came under pressure from states after a rash of incidents involving consumers who mistakenly believed they had won prizes worth millions of dollars. Last October, an 88-year-old man traveled from California to Florida to turn in what he believed was a winning entry for a \$11 million prize. Others spent thousands on magazine subscriptions, believing the more they bought the greater their chances of

The company admitted no wrongdoing in the pact with the attorneys general, which

Inc. Home Entertainment, a does not prevent the states and asking that those who from suing the company.
Gary Peller and Anthony Cook, professors at Georgetown School, are spearheading a

purchased magazines and joined in the litigation be refunded their money and University Law awarded punitive damages. The suit alleges that the comlawsuit in Maryland. They pany uses the sweepstakes as are seeking to halt the company's mailings in Maryland more magazines.

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and Thursday in New York,

Mr. Cusack had bought his States Government," \$1.3 million home, a \$540,000 Kennedy children wrote.

a paralegal in his late father's ident of Guernsey's, which is New York law firm, making a to conduct the sale Wednesday top salary of \$40,000.

The documents that he gave to Mr. Hersh indicated, among contention that Mrs. Lincoln other things, that Mr. Kennedy had bought Marilyn Monroe's onto anything without their silence about an alleged affair knowledge or consent.

by setting up a trust fund for the film star's mother. The indictment says that a federal postal investigator found early drafts in Mr. Cusack's handwriting of the typewritten agreements that bore

the forged signatures of Mr. Kennedy and Miss Monroe. The documents were the spine of a planned chapter in Mr. Hersh's 1997 book, "The Dark Side of Camelot." The chapter was excised before publication because of widely publicized doubts about the authenticity of the papers.

■ JFK Kin Object to Sale On the eve of a bitterly contested auction of Kennedy memorabilia, the former president's children broke their



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By Warren Hoge New York Times Service

LONDON — Once described as a man who could brighten a room just by leaving it, Gordon Brown, the dark and brooding chancellor of the Exchequer, would seem to have no place in the luminous center ring of the image-conscious New Labour government. But on Tnesday, he was the one in the spotlight, presenting the first full Labour budget in 20 years to a packed House of Commons and confirming his role as Prime Min-

ister Tony Blair's first among equals.
In what Mr. Blair called a "defining moment" of his nine-month-old government, Mr. Brown outlined the economic underpinning of the govern-ment's centerpiece pledge to give people incentives to get off welfare.

In economic and social policy-making, Mr. Brown enjoys an independence from 10 Downing Street that no one else in the tween two new arrivals in Parliament in cussing unemployment or mass poverty.

BONN — The opposition Social

populous state as a major step in their

Social Democratic officials said the

naming of Wolfgang Clement, a pro-business Social Democrat, to run North

Rhine-Westphalia would strengthen the hand of Gerhard Schroeder, their can-

didate for the chancellorship in Septem-

The state's long-time premier, Jo-hannes Rau, announced Monday night

that he would step down by summer in

further," Mr. Rau, 67, said Tuesday. "I

believe additional momentum has been

created for a change of politics in

was simply proof that the state's co-

alition government of Social Democrats

and Greens was in trouble and insisted it

But Social Democrats said the hand-

over sent an important signal that a new

generation of politicians was taking

9,000 Listed

Of Argentina

MADRID - The names of 9,000

people who disappeared during the

Argentine military dictatorship

have been presented to a Spanish

judge, sharply widening his inquiry

into state-sponsored terrorism that

until recently listed a much smaller

fraction of the estimated 30,000

Six leaders of the Argentine Workers' Central, that country's

second-largest trade union, gave the judge the expanded list of victims on Monday.

The union leaders also submitted

the names of 896 military officers

whom they blamed for the kidnap-pings and killings of leftists during

A person close to the investi-

gation by the judge, Baltasar Gar-zon, said the new list, if fully veri-

fied by the court, would represent an

important advance in the case,

"since the Argentine authorities

won't cooperate" in identifying the

Argentine amnesty laws in the 1980s tried to halt criminal inquir-

ies. The Argentine government re-

ported that at least 9,000 people

were killed or disappeared during military rule, but human rights groups put the number of deaths at

In 1996 Judge Garzon began investigating the disappearance or killing of Spanish critzens in Ar-

gentina, starting with a list of 40

names. It gradually increased to 600

names, including descendants of Spaniards, and the University Fed-

eration of Argentina later gave the

judge a list of 2,200 teachers and

students who had disappeared, vic-

The Argentine government and

some Spanish officials have con-

tended that Spain has no jurisdic-

tion. But since the judge issued in-

ternational arrest warrants for 11

former Argentine military officials

in October, it is risky for them to

travel outside Argentina, Spanish

lawyers said. The judge has also charged about 100 other former and

active Argentine military and police

The union leaders said they

presented documents to the judge Monday alleging that a half-dozen

large companies, including a Ford

automobile plant near Buenos

Aires, had been used at times as

detention centers for workers con-

sidered dissidents. The unions said

68 percent of the dictatorship's vic-

tims were workers.

tims' lawyers said.

military rule from 1976 to 1983.

people who died.

As Victims

had little to do with national politics.

Mr. Kohl's supporters said the change

ber's general election.

Democrats on Tuesday trumpeted a campa change of leadership in Germany's most Kohl.

Schroeder Ally Is to Take

Control of German State

campaign to oust Chancellor Helmut associated with the more traditional left-

favor of Mr. Clement, 57, the state's about Europe's monetary union would

economics minister and a party col-league. election. He argued that once the decision on which countries are to take part in the the party's chances for Sept. 27 improve euro is reached in early May, 'the issue

Mr. Schroeder.

purely for tactical reasons.

will create less fear after that."

Wolfgang Schaeuble.

the Social Democrats.

cratic support.

times, the other still hesitates.

plementary harmony. Their fortunes are freely exhibits in private. interwoven, and their relationship is

provided Labour with a level of con- who observed the human costs of carefidence in the financial community it has campaign to replace the Conservatives, spectacular career in Britain's most dethe dominant party for much of this century, as the party of Britain's center.

The two men provide abundant in-Mr. Blair, 44, is briskly well-spoken. trimly tailored, and capable of producing a beaming smile at the appearance of a crowd of one. Mr. Brown, 47, is studiously inelegant with a wardrobe of interchangeable navy suits, white shirts highly controlled and centralized Blair and red ties, his fingernails gnawed to the next opportunity is likely nine years government does. Behind his sole promount does, Behind his sole promount does, behind his sole promount does. Behind his sole promount does, behind his sole promount does, behind his sole promount does. Behind his sole promount does, behind his sole promount does, behind his sole promount does, behind his sole promount does. Behind his sole promount does are promount does and the does are promount does are promount does and the does are promount do government does. Behind his sole prom-inence in the nationally televised pro-rictus appearing at unsettlingly inapproceedings Tuesday is an association be- priate moments like when he is dis-

power in Germany. Mr. Schroeder, 53, has been playing a similar theme in his

campaign against the 67-year-old Mr.

In addition, Mr. Rau has long been

ist wing of the party, while Mr. Clement

is considered a pragmatist in the mold of

ling Mr. Rau off the political stage

that's not a good example of leader-ship," he said in Berlin.

Mr. Kohl accused the party of bund-

"They did not treat him honestly and

Mr. Kohl also said he did not think widespread skepticism among Germans

Commentators said the handover in

North-Rhine Westphalia increased pres-

the baton to his own potential successor.

down as his party's candidate for chan-

cellor despite poll ratings which show

state with a population of 17.4 million. It

is home to Germany's industrial heart-land, the Ruhr Valley, as well as big cities like Cologne and Dusseldorf. It

has long been a bastion of Social Demo-

Mr. Clement has pursued pro-busi-

ness policies to secure jobs in the state.

Advocating big industrial projects has

often put him on a collision course with

the Greens. ARD television said a

Schroeder-Clement axis in the party

meant the Greens would not have an

easy ride at state level or in a "red-

green" coalition in Bonn.

sure on Mr. Kohl to consider passing on

Mr. Kohl has insisted he will not step

1983 that foundered on charges of betrayal in the struggle for party leadership from him in public the fine-honed wit parliamentary friend, Mr. Blair. and now seems to have arrived at a com- and shoulder-heaving laughter that he

Mr. Blair is an Oxford graduate with commitment to ending Britain's "boom mitment to Labour activism. Mr. Brown and bust" cycles, Mr. Brown has is a Church of Scotland minister's son less deindustrialization in his teens and never known, furthering Mr. Blair's became politically engaged. He had a manding school system, graduated at age 19 from the University of Edinburgh with high honors in history and as a edients for an Odd Couple production. member of Parliament passed up London dinner-party politics on the weekends for solitary door-to-door attention to his gritty constituency.
Mr. Brown once harbored the expec-

tation of being prime minister himself and has not abandoned it even though his the Labour Party, died of a heart attack in 1994, Mr. Brown was the anticipated choice of the rank and file, but he did not

In a now famous showdown dinner at Mr. Blair's corner hangout, a restaurant called Granita in Islington, Mr. Brown pivotal to the success of the government.

Called the "Iron Chancellor" for his tight-fisted approach to spending and his an unremarkable academic record, a vielded to arguments that the younger man's public appeal in an era of sound-bite campaigns held more promise for a period in his adolescence and a late com-Labour victory than his candidacy would.

A biography written with Mr. Brown's cooperation and published last month revealed that Mr. Brown harbored a grudge over what he felt was Mr. Blair's betrayal of a pledge to let him run and that he felt he would have defeated Mr. Blair had he challenged him.

Born in Glasgow, the young Mr. Brown was steered to a special program for intellectually gifted students and entered Edinburgh University at 16. He achieved his honors record despite an injury in a rugby match in his first year that cost him the sight in his left eye.

Using a little-known clause covering student politics, he was elected rector of the university, giving the precocious 20-year-old authority over men and women twice his age. He resisted campaigns by



Mr. Brown displaying an uncharacteristic smile Tuesday as he left in official residence with the traditional budget box containing his speech.

the elders to unseat him, commenting afterwards, "It was an early lesson in how to tackle the establishment."

Seeing his father's parishioners in the needy Govan district of Glasgow gave him an early sense of service and a dutiful Calvinist social conscience. He embraced socialism and the Labour Party. composing pamphlets that argued for the forced redistribution of wealth and curbs on the "uneven and uncontrolled development of British capitalism."

loss to the per project He ran for Parliament ensuccessfully. in 1979 and then in 1983 won his present seat in the town of Kircaldy, a town on the other side of the Firth of Forth from Edinburgh.

In Westminster, he shared a windowless office with another new member, Mr. Blair, thus beginning the partnership that led to the hourlong speech to the Commons on Thursday with the prime minister cheering him on from a front-bench seat by his side.

U.K.: Breathing New Life Into Work Ethic

Continued from Page 1

creases of £250 million (\$417 million) for education and £500 million for the National Health Service.

The package was largely welcomed in financial markets, except for the ironic disappointment that Mr. Brown did not impose any new taxes on consumers.

Analysis said the absence of higher taxes increased the likelihood that the Bank of England would have to increase interest rates, and maintain them at a high level for a longer time to come, to cool consumer spending and dampen an inflation rate that has risen above 3 per-Mr. Brown forecast that inflation

would average 3 percent in 1998 and reach the government's target of 2.5 percent next year.

"He's leaving the Bank of England the job of slowing the economy," said Giles Keating, chief economist at HSBC James Capel. He said the central bank would probably increase its key interest rate next month by one-quarter of a percentage point, to 7.5 percent.

Stock prices soared to record highs, with the FTSE-100 benchmark index rights 40.8 points to 5.834.9 Investors

rising 49.8 points to 5,834.9. Investors cheered the absence of major new taxes as well as a separate decision by Mr. Brown to allow individuals to transfer unlimited amounts of existing, tax-exempt funds into new investment savings accounts.

William Hague, head of the Conservative Party, hailed the move on eco-

nomic grounds but derided Mr. Brown for "humiliating" political U-turn.

Mr. Brown lowered the forecast for economic growth this year to between 2 percent and 2.5 percent, one quarter of a percentage point lower than projected in November, because of the effects of the slowdown in Asia.

Unlike traditional British budgets, the accent Tuesday was not on major spending any tax until they make more than 50

The budget is designed to eliminate a trap in many countries' welfare systems, in which many low-paid employees give up more in taxes and lost benefits than

BRAVE FACE - Jonathan Aitken, a former Conservative

wing Prote

minister, after his arrest Tuesday on allegations of perjury dating from the collapse last year of a libel suit, in which he had sued The Guardian newspaper for saying that he had allowed Arabs to pay for a sojourn at the Ritz hotel in Paris.

Some worry that the system could discourage people from taking entry-level jobs because if they lose their jobs, they must go through a lengthy process they receive in wages. Under the system, of reapplying for welfare benefits.

could be communicated

BRIEFLY

Russia Backs Kosovo Rights

PRISTINA, Serbia -- Russia called indirectly on Tuesday for wider autonomy for ethnic Albanians in Kosovo while rejecting their demands for independence.

"Russia starts from two principles when resolving issues of national minorities," the Russian foreign minister, Yevgeni Primakov, said after talks in Belgrade with his Serbian counterpart, Zivadin Jovanovic. "That is the principle of territorial integrity in the resolution of issues within a certain state and granting wider self-government rights."

In Pristina, ethnic Albanian leaders refused again Tuesday to meet with a Serbian delegation because the Serbs refused to discuss independence.

A Runoff Is Likely in Armenia

YEREVAN, Armenia — Armenia's acting president and his top challenger headed Tuesday for a second-round runoff after an election marked by accusations of fraud. The Central Elections Commission said that with

three-fifths of the vote on Monday counted, Prime Minister Robert Kocharyan had 38.6 percent. His main rival, Karen Demirchyan, had 28.1 percent. If the trend holds, none of the 12 candidates will gain a majority, forcing a March 30 runoff. (Reuters)

'Mad Cow' Cover-Up Is Claimed

LONDON -- A scientist cast doubt Tuesday on figures showing a sharp fall in "mad cow" disease in Britain. Richard Lacey, the micobiologist who was the first scientist to warn that bovine spongiform encephalopathy could spread to humans, said meat processors had shown him evidence that farmers were covering up cases.

Official figures show that cases in British cattle fell to 4.129 last year from 36,682 in the peak year, 1992. The Agriculture Ministry said it stood by its figures(Reuters)

French Parties Rebuff Far Right

PARIS — The rightist Rally for the Republic and centrist Union for French Democracy ruled out deals with the far-right National Front on Tuesday, after the antiforeigner party offered its support in elections for the presidency of 22 regional councils on Friday.

But one regional president, Jacques Blanc of Langue-doc-Roussillon, of the Union for French Democracy, said he would accept the Front's support to assure his reelection, and there was speculation that several other center-right candidates would also make deals.(Reuters)



Ambassador Per Tresselt leaving the Foreign Ministry in Moscow

on Tuesday for expelling two Nor- more from entering the country after wegian diplomats, but signaled that it accusing them of trying to recruit Norhad no plans to escalate a spying dispute with a new round of expulsions.

gian officials are completely ground-less," Foreign Minister Knut Volleback said, adding, "I hope that this can be the end of this case between Norway and Russia."

Foreign Minister Volleback said Tuesday. "The government sees the Russian expulsions as serious but does not want to contribute to anything that can worsen relations with our neighbor." He said he planned to go ahead with a visit this month to Murmansk, northwestern Russia. (Reuters, AP)

his Christian Democratic Union lagging on Tuesday after being told two Norwegians would be expelled. "Rau's departure increases the pressure on Helmut Kohl," said the news-A Norway-Russia Spy Dispute paper General-Anzeiger in Bonn. "One of them has recognized the sign of the North Rhine-Westphalia is a western OSLO - Norway criticized Russia lomats on Thursday and barred three

Earlier in Moscow, the Foreign Ministry said that Russia had decided to expel two Norwegian diplomats in retaliation for Norway's declaring five Russians persona non grata.

"The charges against the Norwe-

Norway expelled two Russian dip-

wegian citizens as spies.
The Norwegian ambassador, Per Tresselt, was summoned Tuesday to the Russian Foreign Ministry and told two Norwegians would be expelled.

many families will be exempt from

accent Tuesday was not on major spending or tax initiatives designed to stoke growth or redistribute wealth. The change reflects the innate conservatism tremely complex" and said it would put the change reflects the innate conservation women at a disadvantage. Currently,

change reflects the innate conservansm of Mr. Blair and Mr. Brown's conviction women at a disadvantage. Currently, that prosperity lies more in the microethet they receive family welfare benefits, but they receive family welfare benefits, but under the new system money may be that prosperity lies more in the microe-conomics of education, training and tax under the new system money may be an always elected to a seventh.

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Control of the longer of the l

A Tirana Stopover to Seek Albanian Restraint banians in the province of Kosovo is that the stead, he spoke Monday of "compromise" in

By Jane Periez New York Times Service

TIRANA, Albania - In an effort to shore up the forbearance of the Albanians as they watch Serbian violence against their ethnic kin in neighboring Kosovo, the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state, Strobe Talbott, briefly

dropped into this out-of-the-way capital. So far, the Albanian government has stayed out of the fray in Kosovo, and Mr. Talbott praised officials here for keeping alive the "forces of moderation and restraint in the face of the forces of extremism.

Mr. Talbott was on part of a Balkans tour 90 percent of Kosovo's 2 million people. designed to stop the Kosovo violence from spreading. One of the great fears in Washington about the Serbian brutality against ethnic Al-

boring Macedonia, which has a large ethnic Albanian population. The Serbian leader, Slobodan Milosevic, has

been accused by Washington of orchestrating "ethnic cleansing" in Kosovo, where an estimated 80 Albanians, including women and children, have been killed in clashes with the Serbian police.

By coming here for two hours Monday, Mr.

Talbott was showing solidarity with the Albanian prime minister, Fatos Nano, who is under pressure at home to be more supportive of the Al-banians in Kosovo. Albanians make up more than Mr. Nano has refrained from calling for the

independence of Kosovo from Serbia, which is the rallying cry for many Albanians there. In-

violence could spread into Albania and neigh- Kosovo, essentially meaning that the province be returned to its former status as an autonomous territory. Mr. Milosevic revoked the autonomy of Kosovo in 1989. To help cool the Kosovo situation and deter

the Serbian authorities from chasing Albanian

guerrillas from Kosovo over the border into

Albania, Mr. Nano has asked for Western help

in strengthening his beleaguered army. More robust border patrols on the Albanian side of the mountainous region that leads into Kosovo would also help slow down the weapons flow from Albania that has helped equip the guerrillas of the Kosovo Liberation Army.

During the civilian strife that tore Albania apart last year, most Albanian soldiers deserted and almost all the armories were ransacked.

NATO: 3 Eastern Candidates Lag on Language Training and Other Reforms

Continued from Page 1

other NATO members. Poland, the largest NATO aspirant, has been vexed by a dearth of civilians who want to work at the Ministry of Defense. The Czechs, beset with political unrest after a financial crisis last year, have dawdled over legislation to protect classified informa-tion and define military pay grades. Hungary, whose military bases are key to NATO strategy, delayed radar purchases in part because of bureaucracy and in part so NATO would pick up most of the tab.

Language training is a significant gauge of how these countries are preparing for NATO accession. As the Clinton administration pushed for NATO expansion, the most likely aspirants were told by NATO and American advisers to avoid looking out for big-ticket items to improve their might — such as fighter planes — for fear that they would upset their to put NATO testing standards into effect. fragile, emerging economies.
Instead, Poland, Hungary and the Czech Re-

public were urged to prove their interest by reshaping their forces to meet Western ideals. Acquiring English proficiency was deemed one of the most likely avenues for success. Over the last couple of years, each country

received hundreds of thousands of dollars in

U.S. aid for language labs and support from

Canada and Britain for instruction.

Last fall, Frank Kramer, U.S. assistant secretary of defense, underscored the need for English training in testimony to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. "English language proficiency is a critical element of NATO interoperability," he said, adding that Poland, the largest aspirant with 230,000 troops, expected to have 25 percent of its officers proficient by 1999.

Results so far are disappointing. Poland today has only about 60 officers who are considered fluent by NATO standards; it needs about 400 within the year, according to defense officials and Poland's foreign minister, who confirmed those figures.

Defense officials in Hungary and the Czech Republic assert that as many as 300 military anew was a tougher sell. Poland was the last officers are fluent in English. Interviews with military instructors indicate that number is about control over its defense structure. one-third to one-half that many. Hungary has yet The shortfall may be tied to how the language

course must want a year, if not longer, for a refresher. By then, they often lose the language. Another reason may be motivation. Often the Eastern Europeans hear confusing messages from their contacts with U.S. and NATO lead-

ers — and wonder if there is a difference

encounters with a Spanish delegation and then a French delegation. The professor, fluent in French, Russian, English, German and his native language, could not communicate with the Spanish delegation and had to find an interpreter who spoke Spanish. The French delegation wanted all talks to be in French.

"It makes me think," he said, "if the guys who are already in NATO can't speak the NATO language, maybe language isn't so im-

Over the years, Poland has been the single best argument — because of location and history—to move NATO castward. Eight of every 10 Poles supported joining the alliance. But within the military itself, the idea of starting among the three aspirants to secure civilian

Lieutenant General Ferenc Vegh, chief of Hungary's armed forces, said no former Warsaw Pact army finds the change easy.

"It's clear what's supposed to be done," he said. "But of course we don't have enough

civilians to fill the jobs. The root problem is often money or lack of it. One Defense Ministry official said that over the last six months, he had offered jobs to at least 20 people and they had all turned them down. They between what NATO allies say and what they could make four to five times higher salaries in do. A military professor described his recent the private sector, the official said.

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and that their "constructive"

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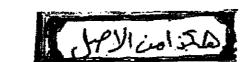
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Runoff I. Likely in Armenia

warses, known as International Military Education and Training or IMET.

The Pentagon kept up its training but under a different program, known as lower Combined Exchange and Training, or JCET. This was a legal way to avoid the congressional ban, since the ban, a Pentagon official said.

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ceded that the training was le gal, but called it the tening was le gal, but called it the tening is loophole to the bin. He said he was "curious to know why U.S. taxpayer dollars are being wasted on aiding and abetting a ruthless military organization.

Representative Nancy Pelosi, Democrat of Califor-

Challenge for China's New Prime Minister: It's the Economy, Comrade

dropped to just 1 percent, from 24 percent in 1993. Mr. Zhu won the respect of other Chinese leaders and superlatives from Western business

executives. He becomes head of China's cabinet when the world's most populous country is emerging as an economic and political heavyweight. He will serve under the president and Communist Party chief, Jiang Zemin, who remains No. 1 in the ruling circle.

By any measure, Mr. Zhu will face daunting tasks: remaking an economy still rooted in thousands of money-losing companies owned by the government, salvaging banks that by outside standards are insolvent, reversing the calamitous pollution of air and water, finding work for tens of millions who once thought they had jobs for life and building a new system of social welfare from scratch — just for starters.

As he takes on new economic and social

issues, Mr. Zhu will also, for the first time, have direct responsibility for foreign policy questions like volatile relations with Taiwan and for China's stand on human rights issues, which has

been much criticized in the West. Perhaps the ultimate issue that will face Mr. Zhu in his five-year term is how the Communist Party can maintain control over a society that is becoming more complex and pluralistic by the

Trained as an engineer and state planner, Mr. Zhu has so far betrayed no strong interest in democracy, only in a more efficient economy

"Î see him as a classic Leninist apparatchik," said David Shambaugh, an expert on Chinese politics at George Washington University. "But it is true that he is also a no-nonsense, tough

oureaucrat who is very decisive. In a system that rewards conformity, where

leaders typically retreat behind dogmatic cant, Mr. Zhu is famous for his frank talk, his sometimes brutal impatience with officials and his results-oriented manner.

That approach has gained him the admiration of ordinary Chinese people, as well as the begrudging regard of the sprawling bureaucracy he will head. Those who work under him refer to him as "the Boss."

But with his determined pursuit of economic cutbacks, and now his goal of slashing the bureaucracy, he has gained many enemies around

the country, too, perhaps leaving him vulnerable should his touch with the economy fail him.

Mr. Zhu replaces Li Peng, who is moving to another senior position after serving the two fiveyear terms as prime minister allowed by China's constitution. Chinese people often compare Mr. Zhu favorably with Mr. Li, who is widely disliked for his central role in the violent suppression of the 1989 student-led democracy movement.

Mr. Zhu has angrily rejected the label, sometimes applied to him by Western admirers, of "China's Gorbachev." The man who presided over the dismantling of the Soviet Union is officially loathed here. Mr. Zhu's own views on broadening participation in political decisionmaking have remained private, but he has not been known to question the primacy of the

Coromunist Party.
"The touchstone for a Chinese leader is how much chaos is being created," a Western dipfomat said. "If there is the threat of serious social disturbance, I don't doubt for a moment that he'll use the necessary force to stop it."

Mr. Zhu, who spent long years as a political outcast, has scaled the heights of power with astonishing speed, in large part because he was sponsored by Deng Xiaoping, another pragmat-

Students Fight Police Officers New Life Into Work Ethic During Protest In Indonesia

By Erik Eckholm

and Seth Faison

New York Times Service

BEDING — Zhu Rongji, who was chosen by

in overwhelming majority as prime minister of

China on Tuesday, is a career communist planner

whose swift rise to power has been driven largely by the sheer force of his achievements.

In the last five years, as chief of economic

licy, Mr. Zhu, 69, has steered the economy ont

Well before the Asian financial crisis hit last

year, Mr. Zhu had applied bitter medicine that no

one else in China dared, among other things

denying loans to the pet projects of officials

By this year the annual rate of inflation had

of runaway inflation without stifling its growth,

a record that would do the International Mon-

ctary Fund proud.

around the country.

Compiled by Our Stuff Prom Disputche

SURABAYA, Indonesia - Students clashed with the police Tuesday during a protest at a state-run teachers' college

They said three students suffered serious head wounds and dozens of others had minor injuries in the confrontation. The clash came when local police officers entered the campus as hundreds of students were listening to speakers criticize President Suharto, witnesses said. Some students threw rocks at the po-

lice, the witnesses added. Police officials were not immediately available for comment.

Witnesses said students later resumed their discussions while police officers stood outside the campus. There were no immediate reports of

It was the third clash between students and security forces in Surabaya, Indonesia's second-largest city, in the past week.

Meanwhile, other forums, each attended by more than 4,000 students, were held at the University of Pancasila and University of Merca Buana in the capital, Jakarta. A smaller gathering of around 1,000 students took place at the National Islamic Institute.

Since Feb. 25, students across the country have held protests, most of them on campus, calling for political and economic reform as well as lower food

In Jakarta, meanwhile, the authorities stressed the need for dialogue with stu-

The armed forces commander, General Wiranto, on Tuesday repeated the

"This invitation to talk with the students is not mere lip service but a genuine invitation, 'General Wiranto said before attending the first meeting of President Suharto's new cabinet. Mr. Suharto was elected to a seventh five-

General Wiranto said last week that students should resort to dialogue rather

He said that their "constructive assain proce pirations" could be communicated to the armed forces.



Riot policemen leaving the scene of the University of Pancasila protest in Jakarta on Tuesday.

BRIEFLY

Korean Talks Moving Slowly

GENEVA — Envoys from North and South Korea met here for a second day of talks Tuesday amid signs that any progress toward improved relations would be slow.

A Chinese assistant foreign minister, Chen Jian, who is leading the talks, which also include the United States, said beforehand that the meeting would give each party a chance to comment on the positions of the others.

Much of the opening session Monday was bogged down in procedural wrangling over seating arrangements and the format of bilateral talks.

MANILA — President Fidel Ramos of the Philippines ordered an investigation Tuesday into allegations that his vice president, who leads in the race to succeed him in elections in May, had ordered his assassination.

Colonel Reynaldo Berroya, a former close aide to Vice President Joseph Estrada, has accused Mr. Estrada of having asked him to kill Mr. Ramos on several occasions so Mr. Estrada could become president.

The vice president dismissed Mr. Berrova's charge as a "demolition job" designed to weaken his candidacy. He has a wide lead in opinion polls over Mr. Ramos's chosen

successor and the governing party candidate, Represen-

Indian Parties Agree on Rules

NEW DELHI - The main Hindu nationalist party announced Tuesday that it had agreed with its partners on the rules by which their alliance will try to govern India. Details of the platform, which has been the cause of much debate and speculation, will be made public Wednesday by the prime minister-designate, Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Although his Bharatiya Janata Party won the most seats in parliamentary elections this year, Mr. Vajpayee did not Philippines to Sift Murder Charge win the majority he needed to govern alone and must rely on support from a score of parties ranging from religious win the majority he needed to govern alone and must rely on rightists to secular socialists.

Thai Prime Minister Optimistic

BANGKOK -- Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai predicted Tuesday that his government, its popularity reinforced by a new \$1.7 billion U.S. aid package, would easily defeat a noconfidence motion this week.

He met with his cabinet after his return from a visit to President Bill Clinton, who rewarded his handling of Thailand's economic crisis with the assistance.

Tongue-Tied in Hong Kong

Proficiency of English Declines as Schools Switch to Teaching It as a Second Language

By Philip Segal

HONG KONG - A recent telephone call to a major stock brokerage, asking when the manager would be available, produced a confusing reply: "He will call you after the phone.

The person who answered is among the 38 percent of the population that the Hong Kong government lists as officially speaking English. The figure conceals a growing problem in this former British colony: Fewer and fewer people know English.

While parents, teachers and the government agree that something needs to be done, the government's solution is alarming thousands of families. After looking at exam scores of entering high school students, authorities decided that many of them would learn all subjects better including English — if they were taught in Cantonese. It announced last autumn that it would phase out education in English in secondary schools in favor of teaching it only as a second language.

Fourteen English-language high schools that were ordered to make the switch by September challenged the government and won. But on Friday, a special government panel turned down the appeals of six others. A staff member at one of the schools, St. Antonius Girls' College, said the principal and teachers met Monday to consider legal action in an effort to retain the right to teach in English.

"The major concern is from the returned overseas Chinese parents," said David To, principal of United Christian College, another of the six schools. He said children who were born overseas and returned to Hong Kong with their parents would have a hard time in a Chinese-language school.

A survey carried out late last year by the Hong Kong Transition Project, an ongoing study of the attitudes of Hong Kong residents on social and political issues, found that 41 percent of people named English as the most important language for teaching in school. This compared with 38 percent for Hong Kong's Cantonese dialect of Chinese and just 8 percent for Mandarin Chinese, China's national language.

Nevertheless, beginning in September, the six schools that lost their appeals will join most other high schools in Hong Kong in teaching English as a foreign language.

"Research worldwide and in Hong Kong has shown that students generally learn better through their mother tongue," Education Secretary Joseph Wong said last week. "They will be able to understand better what is taught, analyze problems, express views, develop an inquisitive mind and cultivate critical thinking."

Officials and academics agree that students' English proficiency has been declining for years, even though all high school students study English for several hours a day and one quarter go on to attend university courses using English textbooks. Just over half the students taking the English exam at the age of 16 or 17 received a passing grade last year.

Educators are split over the reasons for the decline. Hong Kong is contrasted with Singapore, where it is acknowledged that students have a much higher level of English even though they learn both English and one other language — Mandarin, Malay, or Tamil.

Luke Yip, principal of St. Stephen's

College, which has been teaching in English for 95 years, attributed the slide in English to the decision in 1984 by the British government of Hong Kong to scrap English as a subject that 12-yearolds have to pass to get into the high school of their choice. Now, only Chinese and math are required.

Cheung Man-kwong, president of the Professional Teachers' Union, saw things differently. "I don't think 20 years ago the students in Hong Kong could use English well," he said. "At that time only a few students could finish secondary school. The rest went to work in factories.

Today, education is free up to the age of 15, a quarter of students attend university and most manufacturing jobs have migrated to mainland China. where wages are low.

Another reason for the decline is that Hong Kong left for Canada, the United States and Australia after Britain agreed to hand over its colony to China. These were countries that favored richer, better educated candidates for immigration.

Whatever the reason for the sliding standard of English, businesses have noticed. Kirk Knauer, who runs the Berlitz language schools in Asia from his base in Singapore, said the biggest problem in teaching English in Hong Kong is that "people think they speak good English when they don't."

TRAIN: Despite Ban, U.S. Help

Continued from Page 1

tors in Jakarta, but an army strategic command group

letter sent to Representative Lane Evans, an Illinois Demo-The Pentagon was unable to say Monday how much the Monday by the East Timor Action Network, a human rights group, and by a reporter and actions. And by a reporter Naim, who was beaten, arres-

nia, said that the training was certainly not within the spirit" of the law and that it raised "serious questions about a violation of congressional intent. It is clear that it is a circumvention of Congress.'

Grover Joseph Rees, an aide to Representative Smith, said: "We have all these restrictions on IMET and they just get around it by using JCET."

A Defense Department of-

A Defense Department of ted and banned from Indonesia in November 1991 after witnessing a massacre of more than 2/0 civilians by Indonesian troops on East Timor, published an article in The Nation describing the training.

In 1992, Congress banned Indonesia from receiving Pentagon training in the arts of war under the program most commonly used for such that the training improved those officers' respect for human rights.

sia in 1995, under an "ex- was able to buy at least one under the program, Indonesia Pentagon officials said.

Building Falls Near Bombay, Trapping 25

BOMBAY — Rescue workers used spotlights and buildozers Tuesday to sift rubble for 25 people thought to be trapped in a collapsed building near Bombay. At least one person was killed, officials said.

They reported that the six-story residential building, home to 18 families in the suburb of Malad, 40 kilometers (25 miles) northwest of the main business district. collapsed late in the afternoon.

The building was re-cently evacuated after residents were warned that it was in dangerous condition, the officials said. But some families stayed on, they added.

panded" IMET program course in military training di-theoretically limited to train-ing in human rights, civilian which was another legal way

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Don't miss it. A lot bappens there.

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One Eye on the Plug, Auckland Gets Back to Work

AUCKLAND, New Zealand - Merchants in central Auckland had reopened most shops by Tuesday but kept electric generators on standby on sidewalks outside in case

of another prolonged black-One by one starting Jan. 22. all four cables feeding electricity into the commercial heart of New Zealand failed, creating power outages that businesses estimated cost them \$60 million a week. Two of the cables have been partly restored and are car-

rying 40 percent of their usual electric load until they are proven reliable.

But about half the businesses in central Auckland. including many in high-rise buildings, still can operate only from the suburbs or from other cities with reliable electricity

The 60,000 to 80,000 commuters who came into the city daily to work and shop are only beginning to return. Most stores said business was down 50 percent; some lost 85 percent or more of their

It is not known what caused the power cables to fail, and experts say it may take six months to a year to find out. The government has begun its own investigation and is due

to report in June. Mercury Energy, the util-ity, has suggested the cables broke down as a result of the heat and huge demand.

Underscoring the devastat-ing impact of the blackouts, the government released figures Tuesday showing that one out of every 20 New Zealanders works in central Auck-

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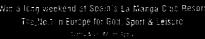
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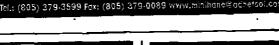
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By Peter S. Gree

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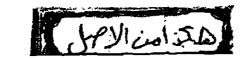
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#### INTERNATIONAL

# As Czech Skinheads Escalate Attacks, Gypsies Start to Put Up a Fight

By Peter S. Green International Herald Tribung

PRAGUE - Helena Bihariova, 26, did not deserve to die on the night of Feb. 17. Her only crime was to be a dark-skinned Czech citizen of Gypsy origin in the northern Czech town of

For three young, crew-cut Czech men, that was enough. On a bridge above the Elbe River, they beat and kicked Mrs. Bihariova, a mother of four, and threw her unconscious into the fast-running,

icy waters. A radio journalist dived in after Mrs. Bihariova and managed to grab her while holding on to a tree root. But the root snapped, and the police rescued only the journalist, Eliska Pilarova, several hundred meters downstream. The three attackers were arrested several hours later.

The past weeks have seen a new string of attacks on Gypsies by Czech skinheads, junior fascists many families have been firebombed, while other with signature nylon bomber jackets and lace-up racist attacks — including an assault by skin-

boots. Their racist, neo-Nazi rhetoric and rock music characterize the Gypsies as subhumans. But for the first time, Gypsies (or Romanies, as they prefer to be known) have begun to strike back at whites, attacking skinheads and even

At least 20 people have been killed in racially motivated attacks in the Czech Republic since 1992, nearly all of them Romanies, according to the Helsinki Citizens' Committee, a human rights

The skinhead movement is secretive, but according to local press reports there are at least several thousand Czech skinheads, mainly in their teens and early 20s, grouped in 10 or more organizations, many linked to neofascist move-ments abroad. They include White Aryan Supremacy, Bohemia Hammer Skins and Vlastenecka Liga (Fatherland League).

Since January, the homes of at least two Ro-

heads on a Congolese physician and on a darkskinned Afghan student - have raised fears. Ivan Vesely, a Romany political leader, said

that in Ostrava, a depressed northern industrial town, he had seen posters signed by the Fatherland League challenging local Romanies to battle. He and other leaders say the rension in the

Romany community is worse than at any time in decades. Several elements are to blame, they say: Mrs. Bihariova's death, the skinheads' growing potency and a series of recent court cases that the leaders say show a double standard in applying Czech laws to racially motivated crime.

"The death of Mrs. Bihariova was a catalyst," Mr. Vesely said. "The Roms aren't letting themselves be beaten up anymore."

The attacks and growing tension with the majority white community has taken its toll on Czech Romanies.

Last summer, after a television documentary showed Czech Romanies living a better life as refugees in Canada, hundreds sold their belongings

and fled to Canada and Britain to ask for asylum. Most were refused asylum and returned home.

In the aftermath of the latest round of violence. many of the estimated 300,000 Romanies in the Czech Republic are again looking to leave. Last week, a Romany delegation visited the U.S. Embassy in Prague to ask for visas.

One commentator, Petr Placak, wrote Friday in the daily Lidove Noviny: "The tension in the Romany community (which is the most frequent though not the only victim of skinhead attacks) is evidently mounting. It is only a question of time when emotions develop into a real explosion of

While successive governments have made efforts to improve the lot of Czech Romanies and to ease racial tension, a vocal minority openly attacks the Gypsies.

A member of Parliament from the extremeright Republican Party said he would introduce a law "making Gypsies illegal." Nothing came of his words, but the Republicans hold 18 seats in

Parliament's 200-member lower house, and polis show they could win 12 percent of the vote in parliamentary elections in June.

That worries Romanies who say they often feel like second-class citizens in their own homeland. A January poll showed that nearly one in three Czechs were against living in the same community as Romanies, and 14 percent of Czechs wanted them expelled from the country. Yet the poll also showed that two-thirds of Czechs had no

strong opinions about Romanies. Spurred by its spokesman, Vladimir Mlynar, the new Czech government has begun to help integrate Romanies into mainstream society and has formed a Romany-led commission to look for

ways to improve their lot. The Czechs' treatment of Romanies is also being examined by the European Union, which

the Czechs hope to join early next century. But Romany leaders say that the white majority has to accept that Romanies are Czech and

Still, it appeared to reflect a certain

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and Denmark have chosen to remain out

of Economic and Monetary Union. Fin-

land disappointed them when it voted

nance ministers that will coordinate

policy in the single currency zone of up

and Denmark when it voted with the

community's Eastern enlargement pro-

cess to a restricted group of countries

that are considered to be most prepared,

including Estonia, Poland, the Czech

argued in favor of including Lithuania,

Latvia, Slovakia, Romania and Bulgaria

in the enlargement process, warning that

to leave them out would create new

EU has given Finland the confidence to

rethink and reshape its entire security

policy, which during the cold war was

focused on the protection of its frontiers:

Although it is not a member of the North

Atlantic Treaty Organization, it has

moved closer to it, contributing troops to.

peacekeeping operations in Bosnia and

discussing joint defense needs in the

Russia would view NATO member=.

ship for Finland as "an extremely se-

sian military spokesman, General

Leonid Ivashov. Mr. Lipponen,

however, hinted that Finland did not

consider its security policy to be set in'

concrete. That policy, he said, was not.

acco

neutrality but nonalignment.

Observers say that membership in the

Sweden and Denmark had strongly

Finland also broke ranks with Sweden

to 11 countries.

Republic and Slovenia

divisions in Europe.

the backing of a majority in the EU."

#### OFFSMORE COMPANIES Offshore Ailing Yeltsin To Stav Home Company & Trust To Stay Home armation 所谓: \$55.35m\_00 = 1.75m For the Week

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MOSCOW-President Boris Yeltsin of Russia reluctantly bowed to medical and possibly political advice on Tuesday and canceled all engagements this week The Officer Person to avoid complicating a respiratory infection.

Among the events canceled was a toplevel meeting Thursday in Moscow of the Commonwealth of Independent States, a loose grouping of 12 former Soviet republics. The meeting will be rescheduled in late April.

The cancellations indicated that Mr. Yeltsin was not recovering as quickly as had been reported. The Russian leader, who contracted a respiratory infection and lost his voice last week, had been expected to stick to an active schedule

But the presidential press service said But the presidential press service said in a statement that doctors had decided that the 67-year-old president, a fam-\*residence outside Moscow where he has been since Friday.

In Kiev, however, the Interfax-

Ukraine news agency quoted the has become the European site of choice Ukrainian Foreign Ministry as saying CONDON OFFIC that political as well as medical factors prompted the postponement of the commonwealth meeting.

E made a similar point, saying that Mr.

Yeltsin could have faced continued that not preparing the meeting more thor-

not ready." said a political analyst, Andrei Kortunov. "The Russian side might have decided it needs more time to sort

in the central city of Yekaterinburg, according to the Russian Foreign Min-



Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland, in Washington on Tuesday. He was flanked by President Bill Clinton, left, and Newt Gingrich, the speaker of the House, at a St. Patrick's Day lunch at the Capitol.

## BY LAWYE Strick to his treatment at the Gorky-9 state IRISH: After 150 Years of Emigration, They Can Go Home Again

Continued from Page 1

pean Union, its economy grew at an estimated 8 percent last year, the fastest in Europe and among the fastest in the world. It added 150,000 jobs in the three years that ended in April and has developed chronic shortages of skilled and oughly or for a large number of political professional workers. Construction companies, whose cranes stud the Dub-

trait: Wherever they are, "Irish people

"I went for one year of experience" dustry association executive who recently returned from London. "But after seven of them I was still there. It was like three inquiries of interest.

left in the next decade. The flow con-(Reuters, AP) tinued strong in the late 19th and early She's now a trainer at Moss Technol-

ulate the United States (according to

soured again and the outward flight con-tinued. Ireland lost close to 200,000 people in the 1980s.

The tide turned in the year that ended

puter company in Scotland, the turning point was a job fair that companies held at a Dublin hotel at the Christmas season of 1996, knowing the expatriates were in town in force. On her way to the airport at the holiday's end, she stopped in and passed out 10 résumés. She said she got

By the following June, she was home The catastrophic famine that began in and found companies fighting over 1845 triggered the great outflow from her. "Your skills don't fit into what they Ireland — more than a million people want, but they're desperate," she exleft in the next decade. The flow conplained. "They say, "Try it!"

20th centuries, as Ireland helped pop-ulate the United States (according to It's not Irish who are moving to Irepeople from all over Europe. Their arrival has given Dublin a cosmopolitan feel, with restaurants of many cuisines, a vibrant music scene, film festivals, and woman who works as a telemarketer for the American software firm Oracle Corp. "All the social activities you'd

#### ■ In Washington, Talk of Peace

peace process Tuesday, insisting the mension.

peace in Ireland." Mr. Clinton said at a six months of the next century and will White House ceremony with Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland. "You must any decisions reached during the Finnish

Saint Patrick's Day to make the concessions needed for an agreement, assuring them that "no one will be the

moment for peace should be seized.

#### FINNS: Drafting Russia Policy for the EU

to clearly condemn racism.

Continued from Page 1

commissioned. The Finns are seriously concerned about pollution of the water table in frontier regions. Organized crime and drug trafficking originating in Russia are getting out of hand.

Mr. Lipponen says that the EU cannot let such problems slide for long and that framework to handle them — the Northern Dimension - is becoming urgently necessary.

The main scope of the Northern Di-ted the proposed European single curmension would be trade and development in a region stretching across the Nordic nations to the Urals and up to the Arctic Circle, an area with 60 million

This would entail building trans-border roads, railways and pipelines, but it last December to exclude them, and Bricould also open a new sea route to the Far tain, from the informal council of fi-East around the northern coast of Rus-

"If the EU is as good as its word in saying that it wants to bring the east closer to our institutions, then obviously infrastructure is something that does the majority of EU members to open the trick." said Jukka Valtasaari, a former ambassador to Washington and secretary of state at the Foreign Ministry.

Although Finland would clearly be the first to benefit from an increase in cross-border trade, Mr. Lipponen said the Northern Dimension was intended to benefit the entire EU and would be a counterpart to the community's Mediterranean program, which aims to establish a region of stability and security to the south of the EU through various

bilateral and multilateral agreements. The southern countries have expressed concern that resources will be taken away from them as the EU focuses its attention on Eastern and Central Europe with its impending enlargement early in the next century.

It was thus of significance when Prime Minister Antonio Guterres of Portugal, speaking during a visit to Helsinki, said he would support the Northern Di-

Agence France-Presse reported. because Portugal will take over the pres-'This is the chance of a lifetime for idency of the EU from Finland in the first therefore have the task of carrying out presidency.

Clearly the initiative would cost an undisclosed but indisputably large sum, and it remains to be seen whether EU members will be willing to dig into their pockets while resources are likely to be drained by the Eastern enlargement process. But Mr. Lipponen says the EU cannot afford to neglect the relationship

with Russia. The European Commission, the EU's executive arm in Brussels, is studying the Finnish proposal and is scheduled to have a report ready for a summit meeting in Vienna at the end of this year.

Although Mr. Lipponen has won support in the Iberian Peninsula, he seems to be having some difficulties with his neighbors in Scandinavia. A Danish committee report in the Nordic Council - which harmonizes legislation in Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden — had to be watered down recently after it disparagingly compared Helsinki's enthusiasm for the EU with

its previous policy of "finlandization." That is a loaded word here. To Western observers it meant a policy of accommodation and subservience to the Soviet Union.

Finns saw "finlandization" as a smart strategy of "stroking the bear" while enabling their country to remain attached

to the democratic, Western camp. The draft Danish report, as reported by the Helsinki newspaper Helsingin San-omat, said Finland "wished to bind itself

as tightly to the EU as possible to emphasize that it was no longer tied to the Soviet Union/Russia." Danish sources confirmed that the report existed, but played down its importance.

BRIEFLY

## Zambia Lifts Rule

LUSAKA, Zambia — President Frederick Chiluba lifted the state of emergency Tuesday that he imposed after a failed coup in October. The move had been demanded by op-

position parties and aid donors. Under emergency rule, more than 90 people were arrested in connection with the failed Oct. 29 coup, including the former president Kenneth Kaunda. Ruler of Zambia for 27 years, Mr. Kaunda has since been charged with concealing knowledge of a treasonous act.

Emergency rule has been criticized by Western donors, the bulk of whom have halted aid payments to Zambia. They were worried that emergency rule would reverse the economic gains achieved since Mr. Chiluba came to power in the 1991

#### Iran Clerics Object

TEHRAN — A group of Iranian clerics have protested against restrictions imposed by the authorities on a prominent dissident, Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri.

The daily Farda newspaper said Monday that the clerics and a number of Ayatollah Montazeri's students, in a letter to senior clerics, denounced 'restrictions" imposed on the senior Shiite cleric after he questioned the ambority of Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in a speech in November

Ayatollah Montazeri's speech, a rare challenge to Ayatollah Khamenei's power, prompted demonstrations by hard-liners in which Ayatollah Montazeri's offices in the holy city of Qum were attacked. A son of Ayatollah Montazeri has said his father is under house arrest, and local press reports said the authorities had frozen the cleric's bank

#### For the Record

Millions of Mexicans who have become citizens of the United States and other countries will be able to retain Mexican nationality under a law that takes effect Friday. (AP)

### **CLINTON:** Popularity With Voters Steady

Continued from Page 1

Mrs. Willey could bring a shift in public opinion that might mean serious trouble for the president, who has flatly denied any sexual contact with her.

Yet, public backing for Mr. Clinton's job performance remains solid even after the Willey interview, according to results of major polls that were made public Tuesday. The high levels of support have perplexed the president's critics and surprised even his supporters.

Mrs. Willey's televised appearance, showed that two-thirds of Americans support Mr. Clinton's job performance. This is a historically high level for presidens in the middle of a second term.

In the CBS poll and a Gallup survey for CNN, Mr. Clinton's personal approval rating rose in the last week to an identical 67 percent, though the increases in both cases were within the range of statistical error.

Seventy percent of those surveyed by ABC said they believed he should remain in office based on what is known now. White House aides said that the Wil-

casting no direct light on the 1993 meeting, nonetheless showed a woman who sounded friendly and gave no anger" toward Mr. Clinton that she expressed on "60 Minutes." Among the notes were:

One dated June 17, 1994, in which 1944 was "the proudest I have been that

you are our president. One dated Oct. 18, 1994, in which anyahu had been friendly. she said: "I don't need to remind you of my willingness to help you in any way that I can."

she said, "There are so very many people who believe in you and what you Called herself Mr. Clinton's "number cess."

Mrs. Willey in these terms: "Kathleen Willey — she called this morning and

said you could call her anytime." In a note sent a month after the meeting, she wished Mr. Clinton a "wonderful Christmas."

"These letters," a senior White House aide said, "put in a context why the president is mystified. They do not show an estranged person or a person offended or insulted.

After the meeting in November 1993, Mr. Clinton and Mrs. Willey maintained Polls by CBS, ABC and CNN, all of contact as she called or wrote repeatedly, them based on surveys taken a day after asking for an ambassadorship, a position Mrs. Willey's televised appearance, on an international panel and a place in his re-election campaign.

The White House arranged for her to go to two international conferences - in Copenhagen and Jakarta — and in a A note from Mrs. Willey to Mr. Clinton, signed "Fondly, Kathleen." The scrawled note to an aide about a request note was sent before the meeting in which she alleged he fondled her. scrawled note to an aide about a request from Mrs. Willey, the president asked: 'Can we do this for her?" When she was seeking employment after the meeting. White House memos show she left 11 telephone messages for

Maember 22,1993

Mr. Clinton, six in the three months after

# the alleged sexual advance. It was not House to her televised comments con- Mr. Clinton has denied that.

Continued from Page 1

Ta'mari, amid mayhem as reporters and rightist Jewish protesters jostled Mr. she told Mr. Clinton that hearing a Cook, appeared to diminish any chance speech he had delivered in France to that Israel would meet his hopes of a

told Israel's Channel One television

after an hourlong meeting with Mr. Net-One dated Nov. 11, 1994, in which anyahu. "I explained the role the European Union can play in the peace process, the very substantial contribution But Mr. Netanyahu focused on Mr.

security people were totally surprised by of a future capital. the changes in the plan. "The issue of Jerusalem is a cardinal

one in our eyes and it is important for us to inform any guest in Jerusalem and anyone who wants to contribute to the

anyahu is concerned about both the United States and Europe trying to impose their ideas for breaking the deadlock in the Middle East peace talks. With his curt treatment of Mr. Cook, Mr. Netanyahu apparently was trying to signal Washington that he would not be

Mr. Netanyahu's complaints capped days of wrangling between Israel and

site with Palestinians. But Mr. Cook said he had "scrupulously carried out what had been agreed" upon with Israel. Mr. Cook had planned to see the site with Feisal Hus-

off after furious Israeli protests. Mr. Cook also said he had agreed not to be briefed by Palestinian officials at the site but made no promise to shun Palestinians during his visit.

retary, Danny Naveh, briefly met Mr. he added. Israel's position on Jerusalem.

regret, was not honored," he said. "Our sector claimed by Palestinians as the site rightist Jews at the foot of Har Homa after crossing an Israeli Army check-point into West Bank territory under Palestinian civilian control.

> brella bearing Britain's logo for its EU presidency, Mr. Cook spent little more than 10 minutes at Har Homa and was assailed throughout by yells of "Robin, Go Home!" and "Death to Palestine!" A British spokesman said Mr. Cook had been unfazed by the protests and

Shielded from driving rain by an um-

"delighted to have the chance to visit Har Homa." Mr. Cook said later that he did not view the dispute as a crisis between the

two countries. "I'm not sorry to have lost a dinner,"

"I've had three four-course meals already since I came to the Middle East.

Jacob Appletis out the problems." Mr. Yeltsin remained "partially ridden" and was taking antibiotics, the really counted, she says, is a national Kremlin's press service said. His doctors arged him to speak as want to go home.' little as possible to avoid further strain on his vocal cords. His doctors have in England, said Graham Prole, an in-AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT described his ailment as an inflammation of the larynx and trachea. Mr. Yeltsin still plans to go ahead seven of them I was still there with a meeting March 25 and 26 with going to the pub for a pint." 25.2 Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany and President Jacques Chirac of France

1627 PM

21 THE LOW ST

U.S. Census figures, about 40 million of land; the good times are drawing young the 270 million Americans claim Irish for scores of global companies. Aided by integration with the Euroancestry) and other English-speaking countries such as Australia and

In the 1970s, the flow reversed for a theater. "It's quite comfortable living," while as the economy improved. Then it said Tania Dalley, a German-British

"It looks as if the summit agenda was lin skyline, sometimes advertise for mid-April 1996, during which a net ready," said a political analyst, An-workers and get no qualified applicants. 5,700 people moved to Ireland. The But Eugenie Houston, author of a number was 15,000 in the year that book called "Working and Living in ended in April 1997, and anecdotal evheat on parties to the Northern Ireland Ireland," says a strong economy is not idence suggests it has continued strong. enough to account for the returns. What

# want to do are right at your doorstep."

get it done," he added. He urged the leaders here celebrating

Mr. Ahern concurred that the rare "We are in the end game," he said.

## Kathleen Willery

Dear Mr. President. what a wonderful week you have had! Congadulation on all of your well described successes.

a few mondes of your dinz to discuss sandthing of importance to me.

clear whether the president responded. trasts sharply to its reluctance to provide Various letters indicated that Mrs. Willey records or information about Mr. Clinhad given Mr. Clinton a tie after the dis- ton's contacts with Monica Lewinsky, a puted meeting and invited him to a party.

The speedy response by the White that she had an affair with the president.

## ISRAEL: British Foreign Secretary's Visit to East Jerusalem Sparks Diplomatic Incident

But the brief meeting with Mr.

"It was quite amicable," Mr. Cook

commemorate the D-Day invasion in bigger EU role in peacemaking.

1944 was "the prondest I have been that you are our president."

Description in peacemaking.

Nonetheless, Mr. Cook said later Jerusalem and will remain so," Mr. Netanyahu said.

Tuesday that his meeting with Mr. Netanyahu said.

pressed into making concessions.

Israeli officials complained that Mr. Cook tricked them by meeting with Mr. Ta'mari after promising not to tour the

seini, the top Palestinian Liberation Authority official in Jerusalem, but backed

At the site, the Israeli cabinet sec-

Cook opposite Har Homa to explain Gorian Hernreich, logged a call from companied by Mr. Ta'mari, Mr. It is something of a management of the project in East Jerusalem, the Cook was met by a torrent of abuse from a further full meal." Accompanied by Mr. Ta'mari, Mr. It is something of a mercy to be spared of

## **New Phase for Clinton**

#### Character at Issue

This is a peculiar moment in what will surely be remembered as one of the oddest modern presidencies. Part of what makes it peculiar is that we have so much information and yet still know so little about what kind of man Bill Clinton really ... It is certainly possible, as Mr. Clinton said again on Monday, that he never made sexual overtures to Kathleen Willey and that he never propositioned Paula Jones or seduced Monica Lewinsky. But it is also true that the American people would not be surprised if he turned out to be lying in all three cases.

Obviously, someone is lying. Just as obviously, the unfurling saga of the Clinton presidency has entered a new phase. Feminist organizations are finding their voices, as are politicians such as Senator Susan Collins, Republican of Maine, and former Representative Patricia Schroeder, Democrat of Colorado. What they are saying is that Mrs. Willey has moved the crisis beyond its bimbo-eruption phase. Even a proven charge of sexual aggression against a mature, trusting

woman in the throes of a family crisis probably would not shake Mr. Clinton's hold on his office, but it would permanently fix him in the public mind as a person of ignoble character. The magnitude of this threat explains

why Ann Lewis used the "Today" show on Monday to start the White House effort to do to Mrs. Willey what John Danforth of Missouri and other Republicans did to Anita Hill. That is to say that whatever the facts of Mrs. Willey's life, there will be a continuing effort to paint her as an erotically obsessed person who continued to write and call her accused attacker.

We may never know with certainty whether Mr. Clinton has behaved badly toward these women or is just unlucky in the way people talk about him. But it is possible to trace how the Clinton presidency is shaping voters' expec-tations for the future. Americans are not naive enough to expect candidates with uncomplicated personal lives. But we may see a resurgence of the old conviction that character counts, and that rigorous inquiry into the character of presidential candidates is not an intrusion but a civic obligation.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

#### Answers, Please

When Newsweek magazine first re-ported allegations that President Bill Clinton had groped Kathleen Willey in the White House, the president's lawyer, Robert Bennett, said his client had "no specific recollection of meeting [her] in the Oval Office." On Monday, the day after Mrs. Willey told her story on CBS's "60 Minutes." Mr. Clinton, in denying her account, said, "I have a

very clear memory of the meeting."
This is not the first time Mr. Clinton has amended past utterances concerning his relations with women. He revived his presidential campaign in 1992 by publicly denying Gennifer Flowers's claim that she had had a 12-year affair with him. "That allegation is false," he told "60 Minutes." This, to Mr. Clinton, was not a lie. "I have absolutely leveled with the American people," he insisted.

Under oath in his deposition this year in the Paula Jones case, however, Mr. Clinton changed the truth somewhat. Asked if he had ever had sexual relations with Ms. Flowers, he responded: "The answer to your question ... is yes." His account now is that the two had sex only once, in 1977.

Similarly, when Paula Jones first accused the president of sexually harassing her, the White House denied lawyers, during settlement negotiations, lationship with the White House, theremeeting Paula Jones on May 8, 1991, in - a room at the Excelsior Hotel. However, even as they still contend that he does affidavit alleging that Ms. Jones said she to be answered, enjoyed their encounter.

Mr. Clinton, in his deposition, adamantly denied any impropriety with respect to Mrs. Willey. He testified that in an effort to comfort her "I embraced her, I put my arms around her, I may have even kissed her on the foreheadthere was nothing sexual about it." Mrs. Willey alleges something else. Her story — which has also been told under oath — is that she went to Mr. Clinton in a period of dire family and financial crisis to ask for a paying job. She alleges that he took the opportunity to kiss and fondle her.

Her story is, in general, corroborated by Linda Tripp, who saw her when she emerged from her meeting with the president And Mrs. Willey is no Clinton hater. She was an extremely reluctant witness in the Jones case, one who had to be compelled to testify. If false, of course, her story is a horrid slander on Mr. Clinton and puts herin criminal jeopardy. If true, it involves the use of the president's power and station to exact sexual favors from an unconsenting woman who came to his office seeking his help in finding a job.

Already the counterattack is under way, with the presentation by White House aides of correspondence showing that Mrs. Willey was trying to stay in the White House after the alleged incident and to get the president to help her improve her professional situation. What is missing from these allegations everything: "It is not true. He does not is the conclusion that we are supposed recall meeting her. He was never alone to draw. Is it that Mrs. Willey is, bein a hotel with her." Yet the president's cause she tried to retain a useful reepared a proposed apology in which fore presumably making it all up? Or is he would say "I have no recollection of it that she is fair game for what she

charges happened to her?

-Mrs. Willey's story adds to the crit-I do not challenge her claim that we met ical mass of allegations that the presthere ... She did not engage in any ident now faces. They need to be improper or sexual conduct." Now, answered not by dribs and drabs of even as they still contend that he does not remember meeting Ms. Jones, the wordplay or a public presentation of all president's lawyers have introduced an Mrs. Willey's failings. They just need

-THE WASHINGTON POST

## Good Doctor Spock

-- Babies do not arrive with owner's but not to flinch from insisting that this manuals. But for three generations of respect be returned. American parents, the next best thing was "Baby and Child Care." which has sold nearly 50 million copies since it was first published in 1946. Benjamin Spock, who died on Monday, was a quiet revolutionary who breathed humanity and common sense into child-rearing, and passionately extended his concerns to the cause of peace. At the height of the Vietnam War, he saw the tragedy of all those children raised under the guidance of his book going off to fight in a senseless war.

Dr. Spock could never understand why such critics as the Reverend Norman Vincent Peale and Spiro Agnew saw him in the 1960s as a proponent of instant gratification and rebelliousness. In advising parents, he was neither permissive nor authoritarian. His most famous suggestion was "Trust your-self," a dramatic break from the rigid, didactic advice contained in parent guides until that time. The greater shortcoming, Dr. Spock said, was va-cillation and being too eager to please.
 He told parents to respect their children

There was a quixotic quality to his politics. He spoke out against the war, suggesting to students that they could resist the draft. He was convicted of conspiracy to aid draft resistance, but the conviction was overturned on appeal. He ran for president in 1972 on the People's Party ticket, knowing that sales of his books had begun to suffer because of his politics. But sales revived, and a new generation of children's specialists like T. Berry Brazelton and Penelope Leach were happy to hail his teachings as their inspiration.

The intimate connection that most Americans had with Dr. Spock came in the middle of the night when consulting his book meant the difference between reassurance and anxiety over the unknown. He lightened the burden by telling parents that even if they made a mistake, it was not the end of the world, or of the child. He gave confidence and power to parents by telling them to think for themselves, which is not bad advice for those they raised.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## Herald Eribune

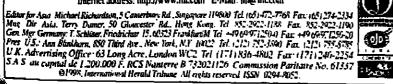
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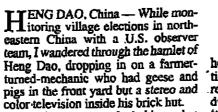
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Our interpreter asked him what happened to the loudspeaker that the Communist Party had in his "brigade," as small villages were known in Mao's day. The loudspeakers were used to blare out instructions and propaganda from the party. "We took it down last year," the villager said. "No one wanted to listen to it anymore. We have stereo and TV now."

There are many things you learn observing village elections in China, but the overriding impression is this: Not only is China's move toward a free market irreversible, it is now being driven as much from the villages up as from Beijing down.

When people say that in China today the government's only ideology - and basis of legitimacy - is its ability to keep incomes rising, they are so right. Ideologically, the Chinese Communist Party is dead.

VIENNA — The Contact Group has called on Slobodan Milosevic to "com-

banian community. It urged

Belgrade to offer the Kosovars

to enter without preconditions

Diving further into the swamp

into a meaningful dialogue on

of sensitivity-group language, the Contact Group offered to "facilitate such dialogue."

foreign ministers in the Contact

Group would want such a "dia-

logue" with any power subject-

ing his or her own society to the

kinds of measures that the Al-

banians in Kosovo have en-

dured at the hands of the Serbian

police for almost a decade.

It is doubtful if any of the

political status issues.'

#### By Thomas L. Friedman

In the village campaign speeches we heard, the Communist Party was mentioned in only the most perfunctory references. Instead, every candidate dwelled on his commitment to be "practical" or "pragmatic" in finding ways to raise village incomes.

Sure, the party is still in control, but without any message. None. That is why they have taken down the loudspeaker. There is only one message from the party to the masses now: Get a job.

Indeed, what is so striking out here on the Nebraska-like plains of Manchuria is that the pressures on advanced economies - to downsize and streamline government, to seek out foreign investors, to plug into global markets and to become more competitive and more diversified - are squeezing Chinese villages as well. Almost no one is beyond the fron-

tiers of globalization anymore, even Heng Dao village. As China becomes integrated into the

global market, the Chinese regime is being forced to reduce subsidies to state industries, reduce social benefits and pressure the whole society to become more competitive. That leads to pressure on the provinces and then the counties, and ultimately it trickles down to Heng Dao, where water buffalo share the roads with motor scooters.

Listen to the campaign speeches for village chief here, and tell me they don't sound as if they are running for mayor of Toledo, Ohio.

The incumbent, Jiang Ying: "I have tried to be very pragmatic in leading the village on the road to wealth. Our annual income is now 2,300 yuan per year. The budget is much smaller, and during my tenure we've gotten many cadres off the village payroll. If elect-ed, we need to introduce more science and technology into agriculture, get more enterprises here and speed up procedures for generating wealth [because] the whole world is turning into one big market for merchandise."

I asked him where he got such ideas. The village has only one telephone. He answered: "I read newspapers. I listen to radio. We have a window frame factory here. Right now we only sell locally, but we were told that if we improved the quality, we can sell

For Chinese, Too, Politics Is About the Pocketbook His challenger, Chen Guoshuang, vowed: "I will bring happiness to the village. I will use more technology, which is the key to bringing wealth. First, we must diversify our economy. Families in Brigade 8 planted straw berries in hothouses and made much profit. We are near the paved road. We should be in the shipping business. One of our villagers did that last year and

Mome

Land the United States.

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Link Republic

earned 10,000 yuan. Really!
"We can walk with many legs. We will operate our window frame factory according to market demands. We must learn all about the market for aluminum, and improve our factory. With profitable village enterprises, we can reduce taxes, and our children can go to school without us having to pay fees." So there you have it. All politics isn't

local. All politics is global. Almost everyone now is feeling the same pressures, constraints and opporminities. Almost every government, no matter how big or small, is having to put on the same Golden Straitjacket -which increases economic growth but shrinks political choices. Just ask Chen Guoshuang, Jiang

Ying and the mayor of Toledo, Ohio.

# Mediated Political Negotiation Is What Kosovo Needs

By Aaron Rhodes

Can anyone be expected to engage in a "dialogue" with another person holding a knife mit himself publicly to begin a process of dialogue" with the leadership of the Kosovar Alto his throat - a knife that has aiready drawn blood? Dialogue presupposes equal-

ity among partners who ex-change ideas and probably seek agreement. Any real dialogue is indeed "without precondi-tions," as stipulated by the Contact Group. 'Preconditions.' however.

exist in Kosovo. The Albanians there have lived for years under conditions similar to those suffered by Jews in Nazi-controlled parts of Europe just before World War II. They have been ghettoized.

They are not free, but politically disenfranchised and deprived of

basic civil liberties. They live in fear of torture and murder, in an atmosphere of terror.

It is not surprising that the Milosevic government, responding to the Contact Group, proposed "open dialogue with the Kosovars, because it is dealing from a position of overwhelming force. It can make concessions from a pot of accumulated power.

Remarks by the Albanian leader Adam Demaci illustrate the inappropriateness of the idea of a "dialogue" in such cir-cumstances. He said there had been no "preparation" for the talks; no agreement had been reached on a "framework" for 'dialogue." He noted that the Serbian representatives had come for a dialogue "as lords to their servants."

A dialogue would work only if the actual preconditions were removed — that is, if the complex array of Serbian policies that have pauperized the Albanians in Kosovo, subjecting them to a kind of apartheid, were removed. A dialogue would work only if the two sides had equal rights.

Kosovo does not need dialogue. What it needs instead is an internationally mediated political negotiation. Where is Richard Holbrooke

when we need him again? The Helsinki Human Rights Committees in Kosovo, Serbia and Montenegro have proposed that a "Dayton-like" process be initiated. It would require large human and material re-

sources; careful preparation and negotiation of terms; a search for any possible mental space on both sides, in order to leave Besser has pressed the superior leader. Trent pet the NATO deal dame. room to maneuver; creating space when none can be found. And it would require a nuge investment of political capital One of the major world players has to step up to the plate, ready to break a cycle of violence and of the matter should be 12 tragedy. A major power or a coalition of powers will have to doubt us Senate had time risk failure, in order to shield us and de ichate. Senator

all from the risk of war. In other words, it will require the spined Mr. 34 ATO summit meet-A Pars and Madind- Hel

The writer is executive director of the International Hel- swims and that there sinki Federation for Human in cuessia commince Rights. He contributed this comment to the International

## First Impunity, Then a Crime Wave in Latin America

By Jorge G. Castañeda

NEW YORK — Nearly a quarter of a century after he led a coup d'état that overthrew President Salvador Allende, Augusto Pinocher, 82, has fi-nally relinquished command of Chile's armed forces. He left the presidency in 1989 but remained commander in chief until last week, when the constitution he enacted in 1980 islation ending investigation

exchange, he was appointed This appointment, as well as the milestone represented by the resignation, has unleashed a passionate debate in Latin America on how democracies should deal with the ghosts and

horrors of their recent past. Congressmen and activists in Chile are seeking ways to try

ONDON — There has

been much excitement

lately about the interference of

Rupert Murdoch, the media

tycoon, with the right to free

HarperCollins, a publishing

house now owned by Mr.

Murdoch, contracted with

Chris Patten, the last governor of Hong Kong, to publish an account of his experiences.

These turned out to be highly critical of China. Fearing an

adverse effect on his media

interests there, Mr. Murdoch,

who is referred to engagingly in internal HarperCollins memoranda as KRM. ordered

An attempt to cover this up

by alleging that the man-

uscript was not up to standard backfired. The affair was

taken up joyfully by a number

of gentlemen who are not fond

of Mr. Murdoch, including a

newspaper group that is in cut-

Little sympathy should be

spared for Mr. Patten. Anyone

who thinks that, knowing nothing of China, he could

browbeat its government into

making more concessions to

democracy in Hong Kong than

had been arduously negotiated

by those who did know China

It is equally naive to imag-

ine that Mr. Murdoch is some

otherworldly, cloistered aca-

demic and not someone in the

media business who wants to

As it is, Mr. Patten has done

secured an apology from the

great KRM, a handsome out-

of-court settlement from Har-

But let us not miss the point

here. The dark side of the in-

and lots of free publicity.

is evidently naive.

make a profit.

throat competition with him.

the contract canceled.

expression by authors.

General Pinochet or block his cades and now impels public Senate appointment. President Eduardo Frei has found himself forced to respect a constitution that in this regard at least is outrageously undernocratic.

in Argentina of the 1987 leg- promised immunity from prosrequired him to step down. In and punishment of military officers responsible for that country's "dirty war" of the 1970s. and of President Carlos. Menem's pardon of convicted army generals.
In Mexico, the opposition is

confused about how to deal with past human rights violations. It is trying to determine what to do about the corruption that has plagued Mexico for de-

Look Who's Running Britain

By Roy Denman

so much the rejection of

manuscripts which, if published, would damage their

commercial interests. It is the

way in which they can dictate

government policy on crucial issues. That has happened in

the two most important peace-

time decisions by a British

The first was in the spring of

1919. Prime Minister David

Lloyd George had become

convinced that the terms being

negotiated in Paris of what would later become the Treaty

of Versailles were unduly

harsh on a defeated Germany.

Jan Smuts, the South African

prime minister, warned him

that such a treaty would result

in another war in a generation.

his advisers to Fontainebleau

and wrote a trenchant memor-

andum to that effect. "In-

justice, arrogance, displayed in

the hour of triumph, will never

On April 8, a telegram in-

spired by Lord Northcliffe,

the KRM of the day, and

signed by 200 MPs was sent to

Lloyd George in Paris. It

spoke of "the greatest anxi-

ety" at any watering down of

the peace terms. The telegram

was published in full the next

day in The Times (then owned

by Northcliffe). Lloyd George

on Germany at gunpoint, was

signed. Without that national

humiliation, Hitler would

The Second World War would

The second case was in the

fluence of media tycoons is not autumn of last year. A new International Herald Tribune.

In June, the vindictive

backed down.

not have happened.

well out of the deal. He has Treaty of Versailles, inflicted

perCollins, a new publisher never have come to power.

The memorandum leaked.

be forgotten or forgiven.'

Lloyd George retired with

government in this century.

opinion to intensely demand some sort of retribution.

Initially, the debate seemed simple and forthright. The militaries, it was believed, would There is resurgent discussion leave power only if they were ecution for their crimes. The South American dictatorships would give way to elections, civilian rule and an emergent civil society if they were promised a relatively painless return to the barracks and strict limits on finger-pointing and rumma-

ging through the past.
Today in Mexico, intellectuals and opposition leaders from the right and the left wonder what to do: whether to in-

Labour government had to de-cide whether or not to join a

single European currency. It

decided on a policy of inde-

cision. Britain might or might not join in 2002.

euro will be up and running. A

bloc of 11 countries will begin

forming a new superpower of 290 million people and a GNP of \$6.5 million. For years, Bri-

tain will be on the outside,

looking in.
The reason for the second

decision, too, was fear of an-

Ever since the Labour Party

tagonizing a press magnate.

first took office in 1924, it has

never completed two full con-

secutive terms. So Tony Blair

is desperately anxious to win

the next election. Meanwhile,

Mr. Murdoch is aware that on

any question of limits on me-

dia ownership, a British prime

minister will be more amen-

able than a clutch of officials

in the European Commission

further integration into Eu-

rope, the Murdoch press (in

particular the Sun, with its 8

million readers) would savage

him. Not that Mr. Murdoch

would give orders to this ef-

fect. It would simply be that,

by some mysterious process

of thought transfer, his editors

would share his convictions.

In 1919, the real prime min-

ister was not Lloyd George

but Northcliffe. The real min-

ister now is not Tony Blair but

Britain has long had cause to regret the first. It will come

The writer, a former repre-

sentative of the European

Commission in Washington,

contributed this comment to the

Rupert Murdoch.

to regret the second.

If Tony Blair opted now for

in Brussels,

But in six weeks' time the

vestigate and punish outgoing autocrats perceived by public opinion to have been immensely corrupt, yet who resubmerging governments and main immensely powerful; or to societies. Security forces are let bygones be bygones in the loverwhelmed by drug cartely name of a smooth and peaceful perty thieves, professional kid. transition to democratic rule.

and intellectual elites who ne- cluded that crime pays. price to pay for their departure.

With some exceptions — the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires, the Chilean Communist Party, the Uruguayan hard left — this quid pro quo appeared to be acceptable to society at large.

Apparently, no more. And the motives for the secondguessing are not hard to discern. Beyond the crucial and painful ethical questions raised by the families and friends of victims whose tormentors simply walked away from their crimes, dire political consequences of the blanket pardous are now more clearly palpable.

 If no one is seriously punished, there is no good reason to believe that history will not repeat itself.

 Consider the continuing pressure exerted by the perpetrators of authoritarian rule. The senators-for-life appointed by General Pinochet have become a formidable obstacle to attempts by Chilean democrats to repeal the dictatorship's economic and social legislation and push forward their own agenda. This even though the current governing coalition has won 50 to 60 percent of the vote in elections since 1989.

impunity on society? In several South Africa), a crime wave is nappers and ordinary citizens The Latin American political who have, perhaps rightly, con-

gotiated the transitions in the 1980s agreed at the time that the and thieves of the past can get SNESS OP best solution was to accept the military's blackmail. This, it everyone else? If in South was thought, was not too high a Africa defenders of apartheid. and white former police of MERMARKET ficers, can confess their hor rendous crimes to the Truth and Sarts Reconciliation Commission apage 6 and then go largely unpunished, the common criminals of urban

> conclusion: Anything goes.
> It is increasingly difficult to reconstruct the rule of law in Latin America while determinate MOBLEMS? ing that it will not apply to ex iled presidents, former dictators or midlevel military officers.

on the arrangements and commitments made years ago in Chile and Argentina. Mexican attempts to investigate historical disasters ranging from the 1968 student massacre to inside deals on the recent bank pri to CAPITAL

vatizations may all prove funie Perhaps the most significan Thing effect of the current introspec & BIATE tion lies elsewhere—in forcing elites and public opinion to re view simplistic conclusions an view simplistic conclusions at the see that they were too quick all seating see that they were too quick all seating

• And what of the effects of York Times Special Features.

#### IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

### 1898: English Alliance

icle, on an Anglo-American al-liance, says: 'It is superfluous to remark that any manifestation of the desire of the people of the United States to draw nearer to Great Britain in general, political and commercial aims and in the employment of the forces which will secure these in the modern world will always be received with the profoundest satisfaction here. Sooner or later, of course, an alliance will unite the English-speaking races

#### 1923: Tennis Titles

world championship titles at: to recognise four Englan championships for Englan and France, Australia and United States. Hitherto, Federation has assigned Federation has assigned world grass court championst

## WASHINGTON - President

areas may be reaching the right LANSTONE SERVICE SER It will not be easy to go back

The writer, author of "Con " The panero: The Life and Death t Che Guevara," lives in New Yor and Mexico City and teaches the York University. He contained Services tributed this comment to Ne

LONDON --- The Daily Chron-

of the world. That may happily be regarded as assured."

PARIS — Yielding to the persistent refusal of the United States to recognise the international tennis championships played in Europe as involving pay the price of peace or the hard and grass court titles. the International Lawn Feder-

ation has decided to aboli: court title to St. Cloud.

## 1948: Price of Peace Quantities

Truman, addressing a joint 9 sign of Congress, charged to [March 17] that Russia 9 sign of Congress, charged to [March 17] that Russia 9 sign of Congress of Congr ruthlessly trying to destroy independence of all Europe. independence of all Europe.

called for resumption of conscription law to enable

United States to support was strong military forces its delignment on help the remain mination to help the remain and the strong of Europe 10 5 free. "We must be prepared. suredly we shall pay the price war," the President declares

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OPINION/LETTERS

# the Pocketbook A Momentous Blunder on NATO MATO ENTRE HARMON - This By David S. Broder ing alarms about the effect NATO enlargement on U.S.-I

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Chen Guoda late, wi l ites diver ate, which counts among its major Lak Mary accomplishments this year re-naming Washington National Airport for former President Ron-Er. 📆 , ald Reagan and officially labeling rakes up the manual the 20th century's most successful the 20th century is most arms is i "15. distance in The are Flat: This Miles 122 Mrs. Paris our factory & ffew shie' 3 h ...

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to include Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

The reason is simple. As Sen-The property of the state of th ator Connie Mack of Florida, the Carried and Tr. 200 country chairman of the Senate Republican Conference, told me while trying to herd reluctant senators Section and Section 2018 into a closed-door discussion of Coor Georges le the NATO issue one afternoon last week. "No one is interested in this 'at home," so few of his colleagues Toledo 1/6 think it worth much of their time. It is a cliché to observe that since the Cold War ended, foreign

policy has dropped to the bottom of voters' concerns. But, as two of 181 KOSOVO Neel the wisdom of NATO's expansion, Democrat Daniel Patrick Moyniban of New York and Republican of Virginia, rethe wisdom of NATO's expansion. han of New York and Republican marked in separate interviews, se-Cossible meng, a des un order gi hous consideration of treaties and military alliances once was considered what the Senate was for. an none can te

. No longer. President Bill Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, mas per Trent Senate majority leader, Trent Sandy Berger, has pressed the Lott, to get the NATO deal done before Mr. Clinton leaves Sunday before Mr. Cannon ... on a trip to Africa.
When Senator Warner and other matter should be

When Senson wanted be said the matter should be ers said the mante had time delayed until the Senate had time delayed untu me senare und for a full-scale debate. Senator Senate delegation had joined Mr. Clinton at NATO summit meetings in Paris and Madrid last year (no sacrifice being too great year (no sacrime tems and that there tor our solons, and a had been extensive committee hearings.

Wrapping the three former Soviet satellites in the warm embrace of NATO is an appealing notion to many senators, notwithstanding the acknowledgment by advocates that the Czech Republic and Hungary have a long way to

for ratification has approached. successive estimates of the costs to NATO have been shrinking magically, but the latest NATO estimate of \$1.5 billion over the next decade is barely credible.

The administration, in the person of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, has steadfastly refused to say what happens next if NATO starts moving eastward toward the border of Russia.

"The door is open" to other countries with democratic governments and free markets, Mrs. Albright says. The administration is fighting an effort by Mr. Warner and others to place a moratorium on admission of additional countries until it is known how-well the first recruits are assimilated.

Mr. Moynihan points out that if the Baltic countries of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, which are panting for membership, are brought in, the United States and other signatories will have a solemn obligation to defend territory farther east than the westernmost border of Russia. He points to a Russian gov-

ernment strategy paper published last December saying that the expansion of NATO inevitably means Russia will have to rely increasingly on nuclear weapons. Senators Moynihan and Warner are far from alone in rais-

ing alarms about the effect of NATO enlargement on U.S.-Russian relations.

The Duma, Russia's Parliament, on Jan. 23 passed a res-olution calling NATO expansion the biggest threat to Russia since the end of World War IL The Duma has blocked ratification of the START-2 nuclear arms agreement signed in 1993 and approved by the Senate two years ago.

George Kennan, the elder statesman who half a century ago devised the fundamental strategy for 'containment" of the Soviet Union, has called the enlargement of NATO a classic policy blunder. Former Senator Sam Nunn of

Georgia, until his retirement last year the Democrats' and the Senate's leading military authority, told me: "Russian cooperation in avoiding proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is our most important national security objective, and this [NATO expansion] makes them more suspicious and less cooperative."

"The administration's answers to this and other serious questions are what I consider to be platitudes," he said.

To the extent that this momentous step has been debated at all, it has taken place outside the hearing of the American people. Too bad our busy Senate cannot find time before it votes to let the public in on the argument. The Washington Post



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Papon Trial

Regarding "Between Yawns, the Shock of History" (Opinion, March 5) by Amy E. Schwartz:

How sad it is that we continue to drag 87-year-old men to trial hoping, on the basis of 50-yearold evidence, to punish those responsible for the crimes of World War IL True justice after so long a time cannot be reached with any degree of reliability.

Those truly guilty parties that are still alive have lived a long time with their guilt and/or would not acknowledge it under any circumstances. Either way, they soon will pass on to their inescapable final judgment.

I do not understand the passion of those who continue to seek this charade of justice.

Better to follow the South go to bring their military forces up

African model: Offer amnesty

The writer is a spoke to any and all who will come for Médecins du Monde. African model: Offer amnesty

forward to tell their view of the truth.

ROBERT M. FENSKE. Frontenac, Minnesota.

#### Afghan Relief

12) by Flora Lewis:

Regarding "Sovereignty vs. . Human Rights" (Opinion, March

Referring to a campaign for the women of Kabul, Flora Lewis writes that it was organized by the European Union and the relief organization Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders). In fact, the humanitarian med-

ical relief organization that she should have cited was Médecins du Monde (Doctors of the World).

DIANE SELIGSOHN.

The writer is a spokeswoman

Médecins Sans Frontières did not organize the "flower for the women of Kabul' campaign with the European Union. We also do not "feel it inappropriate" to discuss how to pressure Afghanistan's Taleban regime, as the ar-

ticle stated. On the contrary, as an international independent medical relief organization working in Afghanistan since 1980, Médecins Sans Frontières has continued to work in the field and to negotiate locally and internationally for equal access to health care for all

people at all levels. In September of last year, when hospital care for women was severely limited - to 45 hospital beds for the whole of Kabul - we successfully campaigned for this Taleban edict to be reversed. We also highlighted the need for the UN's World Health Organization

to honor its own principles and

refrain from funding discriminatory health policies.

Since then, women's access to health care has improved in Kabul, although a lot more collaborative work at all levels is needed if Afghanistan's people are to have equal access to health care. SAMANTHA BOLTON.

The writer is a spokeswoman for Médecins Sans Frontières.

London.

#### On the Bright Side

Regarding "Mile-Wide Asteroid to Come Dangerously Close"

The article focused unnecessarily on the negative aspects of an asteroid impact on Earth. On the bright side, there might be fewer

## Character and Leadership: Why the Two Are Linked

By Billy Graham

A SHEVILLE, North Carolina Regardless of the outcome of the investigations into President Bill Clinton's alleged misconduct, the controversy swirling around him has raised one question that must not go unanswered: Should those in positions of lead-ership be held to a higher standard

#### MEANWHILE

of moral and ethical conduct than ordinary citizens?

Admittedly, on the one hand, those of us who affirm historic Judeo-Christian moral values values based on what we believe to be God's will as revealed in the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount -- assert that wrong is always wrong, no matter who commits it.

The Bible teaches that sin is the breaking of God's moral law. It always has repercussions; "be sure your sin will find you out. the Bible says (Numbers 32:23) either here or in the next life. None of us can claim to be exempt.

The Bible says, "There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:22-23).

However, those entrusted with leadership — whatever their field - bear a special responsibility to uphold the highest standards of moral and ethical conduct, both publicly and privately.

Jesus's words in his parable of the faithful and wise manager are still true: "To whom much is given, of him much will be required' (Luke 12:48).

Those who have the greatest standing in society — whether clergy, politician, business person, labor leader, athlete, entertainer or anyone else who is a role model - also have the greatest

need of personal integrity. The question is asked, Why can't we just ignore personal character, as long as a person does the job? Simply stated, it is because the stakes are too high and the impact on society is too far-reaching. The greater the visibility, the

greater the impact. A leader's moral character, first of all, influences the way he or she does his or her job. There simply is no such thing as a fire wall between

cheats in his personal life be trusted in a business deal or a courtroom or a political agreement?

some as close friends. I knew most of them before they became president and have been in their homes and glimpsed their family lives. I have had long talks with them. All faced temptations and pressures

most of us can barely imagine. Most of the presidents I have known were dedicated and thoughtful men who sincerely sought to serve their country. When I learned later of moral failures or compromises in some in-

stances, it grieved me deeply.

It also made me search my own heart. I feel that people have put me on too high a pedestal; we do the same with other leaders. I know, however, that I am not as good as some people think I am. I have to depend on God every day to help me live as I should.

Only time will tell whether President Clinton has betrayed the trust we Americans have placed in him as our leader.

I have known President Clinton as a friend for many years. I led the prayer at both of his inaugurations. He first came to hear me preach when he was a boy. I hope and pray, for his sake, for the sake of his family and for the sake of our nation, that he is not guilty of the things he is alleged to have done. We need to pray fervently for

him, for everyone involved in this controversy and for our country. We must not be tempted.

however, to divorce character from leadership. That would be tragic. Ultimately, however, the ques-

tion of moral character comes down to us as individuals, and to the decision we each must make about our own moral and spiritual foundations. When we point a finger at the president, let us point another finger at ourselves for our sins. Jesus taught that if we even think an immoral act, it is the same in God's sight as the act itself.

The greatest need in America is for a moral and spiritual renewal. This comes, I believe, only as we turn in repentance and faith to the living God, who stands ready to forgive and renew us from within.

The writer is an evangelist and what we do privately and what we the author, most recently, of "Just do publicly. Can someone who as I Am." He contributed this consistently lies or deceives or comment to The New York Times.

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ONDON — A week of stark theatrical contrast: at the bleak end, a couple of Beckett revivals, while in the neo-Gothic corner Tennessee Williams's epic far-rago "Camino Real" (Young Vic), the one that gives us a club-footed Byron, a disenchanted Casanova, Don Quixote de la Mancha and La Dame Aux Camelias all gathered together in some (presumably South American) police state to dream of escape and recall their former romantic glories. If you imagine "Casablanca" reworked as a drug nightmare you will have some idea of what is going on, though not a lot, Williams has no interest here in plot or logical development, just a vague desire to bring together some literary and dramatic superstars and see if anything happens as they crash into each others' fantasies, egos and disasters.

And yet, when I first saw this play in a Peter Hall production at the Phoenix in 1957, it was the one that convinced me of the genius of both author and director. I was admittedly 16, which is a perfect age for a tourist trip to the "Camino"; 40 years later, one is apt to start noticing the creaky nature of the piece and its flamboyant failure to find any kind of resolution for any of its characters.

For once, it is not a problem of RSC undercasting; Steven Pimlott has managed to gather a rare collection of star character players (Peter Egan, Susannah York, Paola Dionisotti, Jeffry Wick-ham, Peter Reeves, David Collings) all of whom are usually what the company lacks most at home. Only Leslie Phillips, in the narrator role that requires at best the late Sydney Greenstreet, Orson Welles or Peter Ustinov, seems as uneasily padded as the play itself; the others grab their own fragile moments and play them like a series of solo turns on a classical vaudeville bill, probably

frantically overwrought purple prose.

Seen now, "Carnino Real" conceals a desperate kind of autobiography, Williams was, after all, a poet unable to complete his own life or deal with the borderline at which his hothouse dreams became nightmares of love and loss, and you can find him in almost every one of the characters here.

The play resembles some THEATER vast, crumbling cathedral in which the individual bricks are more intriguing than the edifice: more intriguing than the edifice: it is often close to unplayable, sometimes close to unwatchable and yet the RSC, as ever vastly happier at the Young Vic than their main Barbican home, deserve credit that they have not elsewhere had for bringing it back to us. We shall probably have to wait another 40 years before we get to see it again.

With the Old Vic shuttered and for sale, Peter Hall (courageously aided by move his company to the Piccadilly, a vastly less welcoming space where a season that will include Judi Dench in 'Filumena,'' Jemma Redgrave as "Ma-

jor Barbara" and Elaine Paige in "The Misanthrope" gets off to a low-key start with a revival of the "Waiting for Godot" that at the Vic last summer starred Ben Kingsley and Alan Howard.

Now we get Julian Glover and Alan Dobie as the Irish tramps awaiting the never-to-be-seen Godot. And though this is still an immensely strong and intelligent revival, something of the charisma

of the original is lacking.

The greatness of "Godot" (originally uncovered by Hall in a much abused 1955 staging) is the way it stares into the void and still finds a few bleak laughs down there. And we now get an intriguing chance to compare it with the altogether darker "Krapp's Last

the best way of handling Williams's the impresario Bill Kenwright) has had to Tape," which Edward Petherbridge is playing and co-directing for a very few performances in the Barbican Pit.

Written eight years after "Godot" for Patrick Magee, this is a still bleaker account of an old man and a tape recorder, having to choose between the pain of the present and the still greater pain of the spooling past. Though he has none of the throaty resonance of Magee, Petherbridge manages an altogether more fey and theatrical figure, none the less haunting for that.

ND finally, in yet another ghastly week for the arts in Britain, with the entire Arts. Council being forced to resign ostensibly for reasons of efficiency -in reality a transference of all power to the new chairman — and the Royal Opera House being flogged off to the highest bidder - always assuming one could be found — I have a modest proposal. Certain things we now know: There is

no sadder sight than that of the Old Vic boarded up; the RSC can manage at the Young Vic, but is still in deep trouble at the Barbican; and the Piccadilly, to judge from a scarlly thin second-night audience at "Godof" is never going to work for Hall the way the Vic did so magnificently last year until the Mirvishes felt forced to sell (not that they have, as yet).

Right, here's the proposal; the RSC withdraws to Stratford, as it is in the process of doing anyway, and surviver there on the tourist trade, much like Chichester. If it gets a hit, the company can move it to the Young Vic, and a little of its multi-million pound grant shouldbe left for doing just that. The rest of the grant should now go to Hall, allowing him to buy the Old Vic and run the best classical rep in the country. The Bar-bican can then be left to movies, conferences, visiting companies and any thing else John Tusa can find Any better ideas?

# The Lojo Band: World Music With a Geography All Its Own

By Mike Zwerin ional Herald Tribune

ARIS - One more proof of the power of World Music. We're talking goose bumps here; hair rising on the back of necks.

The World Music band called Lojo is

so original that if they do not break through commercially it might turn out to be our fault. Our loss. Listeners need to stretch, in other words, invest their intelligence like with a good movie in

order to pick up on it.

Formed in 1982, the Lojo band taught themselves and each other a considerable degree of musical technique and style. They read history books and discuss them. They continue to work hard at learning.

Structured collectively, with income divided equally, they are all either from Angers or they moved there within the past decade. Angers is a provincial city in western France, between Nantes and Tours. Factories and alcoholics dot the landscape, which is flat, windy and pol-

"The community did not approve of us at first," said Lojo's leader, Denis Pean. "But now they are finally coming to us. They realize that they have ig-nored us for 15 years, and they feel a bit guilty about it." They could not really be ignored. They were part of the landscape. They were natives, after all; family in the broad sense of the word.

They bill themselves as a tribe. The

term does not carry the "Easy Rider" exclusive affectation of 30 years ago. It's a plain statement of fact. An extended family with responsibilities to each other. Pean - singer, lyric writer

and keyboardist — is a native. Nicolas Kham Meslien is from the Caribbean, Nadia Nid El Mourid and Yamina Nid El Mourid, the sisters who sing, dance, clap hands and play percussion instruments in front of the group, are of Berber origin.

There is also a violinist, an accordionist and a drummer; plus management, sound and light people. Ten in

Most everybody lives in a large com-munal house. And there are other, smalier, houses scattered about nearby.

'It is very bourgeois around there," Pean said. "There is a mundane idea of culture. They like classical music. And if musicians play rock or jazz, they must have made a reputation somewhere else to be appreciated. It's a kind of lack of self-respect. 'If you're so good, what are you doing here?"

Lojo is being recognized by more and more, and more sophisticated, people. Over the next few months, they have work in Lyon, Marseille, Aix-en-Provence, le Printemps de Bourges and Peter Gabriel's "Womad" Festivals in Seattle and Caceres, Spain.

Their pay can go from \$400 to maybe \$5,000 a night. Total. No matter what, the money is split equally. Their new album, "Mojo Radio" (Emma Productions) is to be released March 20. The basic mixture is North African crossed with Afro-Cuban sources; with touches of the French chanson, Gypsy dances, and rock 'n' roll.

Every influence has its place. The many elements are not encouraged to go anywhere they ought not to be. Pean sings in Arabic, French, Spanish and

It is music of the world with a geography all its own. The elements are tied together by wide bridges. Powerful, moody Arabic modes mix with a rock back-beat and hand-clapping double-time with claves and a triangle chipping

A soprano saxophone (played by Yamina, who is new at it), accordion and violin play extended lines in unison à la Weather Report. They can be in 5/4 or 7/4 time.

OTH Nadia and Yamina have great grace, beauty and musieal sophistication. The intervals they sing are complex without showing off. Their smiles are more than a mere hustle of joy. Yamina, a beauty of startling proportion, has a face reminiscent of Garbo and her dance is a demonstration of what swing should

"Many people have passed through the group." Pean is shy and speaks slowly and softly but with determination. "It was very difficult to sustain a group with good musicians without



Lojo: They have taught themselves and each other a considerable degree of musical technique and style.

money. So many factors — the human problem, the politics, philosophy, musical questions. We ask ourselves what is a musician's place in the world. We find very few answers. So we keep

asking.
"The name Lojo means nothing. It is just a sound. Basically, Lojo is a school. Everybody learns. Everybody teaches. We rehearse in the house. Sometimes we'll have public rehearsals in a small cultural center nearby just to have the

a bass line ... whatever. It doesn't matter who or what, there are no specialists. Somebody else adds another element.

ABRIEL'S "Womad" festivals are prestigious. The two this year will be Lojo's first. Gabriel, known for his good ears and open spirit, is a fan. Lojo has already worked at Lincoln

Center in New York - somebody in-Rehearsals work like this. Someone sure to whom or when; and he seems will come up with a guitar lick, a verse, unaware of, or at least unimpressed by, something, then I do it.

the value of this valuable credit. They've played Cramps, also in New York, and they had "a lot of success in Poland" and "good contact" in Germany, Spain and Belgium. They've worked Black Africa—Mali and Benin. And on the island of Reunion.

Pean has one habit that is, unfortunately, politically incorrect in this business, where being late is "hip." He shows up right on time. "I believe in the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think that the power of words," he was a said. "I think the power of words," he was a said. "I think the power of words," he was a said. "I think the power of words," he was a said. "I think the power of words," he was a said. "I think the power of words," he was a said. "I think the power of words," h On every level. If I say I am going to do

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## **BOOKS**

TOY WARS: The Epic Struggle Between G. I. Joe, Barbie and the Companies That Make Them

By G. Wavne Miller. Times Books. 348 pages, \$25. Reviewed by Jonathan Yardley

THIS obviously was not G. Wayne Miller's intention, and indeed it is a judgment with which he presumably would differ, but here you have it: Assembled within the pages of this book is as disagreeable a cast of characters as one could ever pray not to meet. They are the men and

women - mostly men who preside over the design, manufacture and marketing operations of the world's two largest toy companies. Theirs turns out to be a

pretty rotten business, and they for the most part appear be pretty genuine

Miller, a reporter at the Providence Journal-Bulletin in Rhode Island, began this believes "corporate success

book as a study of G. I. Joe, the "signature tov" of Hasbro, the big Rhode Island- most part he treats his emsearch took him into a broader arena: the brutal, bitter competition between Hasbro and Mattel for domination of the huge, lucrative toy market in the United States and

Business being business, no one will be surprised that there are many tough guys (or would-be tough guys) in this tale, or that rough tactics are employed in the battle for domination and profit. But the spectacle of grown men and women cynically exploiting the naivete and vulnerability of children - with no real thought or concern for the well-being or education of those children - is genuinely repellent.

other countries.

The central figure of the story is Alan Hassenfeld, who assumed control of Hasbro after his brother, Steph-

en, died in 1989 of AIDS. To the extent that Miller has a good guy in his cast, Hassenfeld is clearly meant to be the one; he's loyal to little old Rhode Island, he without social responsibility a family-owned \$50 million [is] immoral," and for the business. It's a \$3 billion trol it anymore.' he doesn't come off as well in this account as Miller seems

to believe he does. Part of the problem is that Hassenfeld took office in the shadow of his brother, "the father of the modern toy company," who in the 1980s left Mattel in the dust - temporarily, as it turned out and made himself a legendary figure.

Within the Hassenfeld family and without - and within Alan Hassenfeld himself - there was terrific pressure to live up to Stephen's legend and legacy.

As Miller writes, in the overwrought prose to which he is susceptible, "When tragedy forced [Alan's] hand, he knew the long shadow of his brother would be upon him. Just how long, he could not have imagined."

THE other problem is that virtually every American business now operates under "merciless mandate of growth and profitability." Everything from competi-

tion to the demands of stockholders to the stock market itself pushes a business to get bigger and bigger, often to the point that the qualities from which its original suc-cess arose are diminished or

"This company is no longer one person or five hundred people," Hassenfeld said after a merciless "restructuring" imposed by concerns about efficiency and profit.

Later his right-hand man, Al Verrecchia, a bean counter, said: "I ... don't think we can promise a warm fuzzy place anymore. It's not

publicly traded company. Control rests in the hands

of forces far larger than any one family, which means that to maintain at least a semblance of control. Hassenfeld found himself making choices that one would like to think he regretted, especially ones that produced toys not to mention television shows and other spinoffs designed to exploit children's fascination with violence, boys' especially.

The evolution of G. I. Joe is a case study of that, and there are many others in 'Toy Wars.'

It's not always easy to discern Miller's point of view as these developments unfold. On one hand, as Hasbro gobbles up the venerable Milton Bradley, Miller writes with obvious admiration for its eponymous founder's belief that "he was duty-bound to advance the well-being of children." that "the mind of a child was a sacred trust."

But on the other hand, he plainly likes and admires Hassenfeld and Verrecchia, and he cheers on the sidelines as they employ Mattel's rough tactics to combat Mattel's tough competition.

But the reader looking at all this from the outside. unencumbered by personal ties to any of those involved, will have little trouble concluding that this is a mean, nasty business conducted by cynical adults who see children as nothing except tiny cash calves. That is why reading "Toy Wars" is such a thoroughly depressing experi-

Washington Post Service

## Dancers Hit Gold on the Road

By Celestine Bohlen New York Times Service

LORENCE -- The Balleto di Toscana, which started its first North and South American tour on Friday, is in many ways an Italian cultural anomaly.

The company is private, it is small, its repertory is modern and its success is greater abroad than at home, where contemporary dance is often forgotten in the institutional bias for the big splashy productions of Italy's state-financed opera houses.

When the Balleto di Toscana recently went to Frankfurt with its popular "Mediterranea," an exuberant and haunting homage to the diverse cultures that share what the Romans called Mare Nostrum (Our Sea), there was a 10minute standing ovation.

The same ballet, a 1993 work by the

Italian choreographer Mauro Bigonzetti, played to a half-empty house re-cently in the northern Italian city of

Chandor

29 Herb

(champagne)

sometimes called Chinese

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34 Computer type

But none of this bothers Cristina Bozzolini, 54, the former prima ballerina who founded the company in Florence in 1985 as a way of giving Italian dancers an opportunity she never had: to perform contemporary choreo-

graphy.
"I was frustrated," said Bozzolini, now the company's artistic director and still its driving force, speaking after a performance in between squeals from her cellular phone. "So I set up my own

In the beginning, she explained, most of the Balleto di Toscana's 12 dancers, all of them classically trained, were foreigners, since most good Italian dan-cers had to go abroad to explore their

OW the company has 16 full-time dancers, all but two of them Italian, a proportion that makes her proud. Being small has allowed the company to maintain high professional standards

cipline that is evident in performances. Even when the company could not afford more than a dozen dancers, it was able to keep to its schedule, with none of the last-minute changes and cancellations common to state-owned compa-

s.
"We have never missed a show," and checking out pre-Bozzolini boasted. The company, which is on the road momens buy in-

for all but 10 performances a year in lance, or is it sold Moor.

Florence, has now performed 80 ballets them? The Florence, has now performed 80 ballets them. The quesin all It keeps 10 in its current repertory, in all It keeps 10 in its current repertory, in a wines that won-which includes varied offerings like a wing insurance Prokofiev's "Romeo and Julier," cho-was the internet.

o newer works by Bigonzetti.
"Mediterranea" is the only work be the people seek "Mediterranea" is the only work per members seek ing performed on the two-month tout secusly. Says and will be offered at the Joyce Theatre some director, in New York for a week.

"Everyone wants this ballet," said "Everyone wants this part of the body of the cus-Bozzolini. "It's about seas, about come that custies, about people overcoming their distant be as mo-

with an emphasis on rigorous dis-

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Herald Eribune THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

**New Competitors** 

AND E-COMMERCE SHAKE UP INDUSTRY

Deregulation and changing customer preferences

are other factors driving change in insurance.

tions in the Global Insurance

World" believed that elec-

ance marketing initiatives

the next five years, in-

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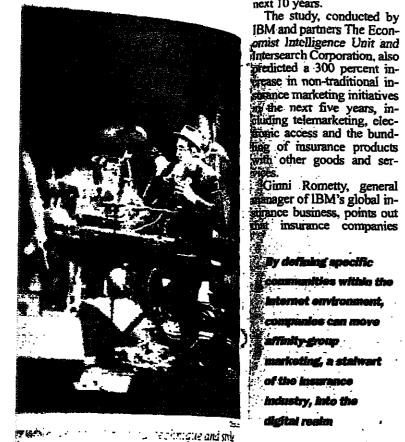
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have been successful, "so there have been fewer reasons to change." She notes that the industry currently spends \$30 billion a year on - Visik technology, not a conserva-

industry, into the

tive summer and to Linux and a A variety of factors is havthe evolution of this information-intensive industry. Changes are : the result of competition from banks and other financial services companies, new technologies, deregulation, and changing consumer preferences and demographics,

n spite of its conservative according to the study. Ms. reputation, the insurance Rometty adds to that list the industry is entering the evolution of the euro, with era of e-business with open both technical and strategic implications for all financial Seventy-two percent of insurance executives partic-

ipating in an in-depth study New competitors called "MarketSpace Direc-

Insurers see competition from banks and brokerage firms as the most important tronic commerce will have a factor influencing the future profound impact on reshap- of their industry. The latter ing their industry over the are viewed as sophisticated marketers, with integrated The study, conducted by databases that enable better customer management, proomist Intelligence Unit and duct development and pro-Intersearch Corporation, also motional communications. bredicted a 300 percent in- The same can be said of noncrease in non-traditional in- traditional competitors in retail, telecommunications and computer services.

New technologies such as onic access and the bundthe Internet, interactive teleof insurance products vision and electronic kiosks are seen as the next most important factor influencing Ginni Rometty, general insurance, says the study.

Some insurance compaimance business, points out nies have already begun usinsurance companies ing the Web and intranets to sell and deliver policies, process claims, improve communications with their brokers and bundle their products with those of other companies.

IBM has developed a full range of technology solutions for the industry, which it calls Insure-Commerce. These include products to help with the business-tobusiness sector.

"Business-to-business communications are growing five times faster than business-to-consumer," points acquisition. out Ms. Rometty, "and insurance companies can reap great benefits here."

Who is the customer?

Insure-Commerce also includes business-to-consumer solutions that include - but go far beyond — the basics of helping insurers develop Internet strategies and Web

An example is IBM's Cus-

of brokers: What kind of cus- The marketing is more in- decision is made, the pros- erences and demographics tomer do they sell to?

lists of appropriate customers to appropriate brokers for certain kinds of products, lowering the cost of customer The precise strategy for

implementation is up to the Rometty. "That is what cre-points. ates their competitive advan-

The power of the Internet can be harnessed to affinity groups, a stalwart of insurance-company marketing.

ing, IBM global insurance, ator at a call center. customers buy what products. specific communities within product and is shown a short private pensions." It also reveals the preferences the Internet environment, video on line. Before a sales

teractive than traditional With this information, an ways of leveraging affinity insurance company can offer groups."

Collaboration

For the future, IBM has developed a prototype of what it calls collaboration technology, using the properties of the Internet to weave togethinsurance company, says Ms. er a multiplicity of access

John Moon, marketing manager, customer relationships management solutions, IBM global insurance, gives the example of a customer who logs onto an insurance Schoeman Rudman, di- Web site, asks for help and is rector, networking comput- connected with a live oper-

tomer Prospect Optimiser, explains, "You can use tech- The prospect asks for the government decided to dable challenge in an increaswhich reveals what kinds of nology capabilities to define more information about a encourage individuals to buy ingly fragmented market

pect has a few technical questions and is connected di- all parts of the world, says the rectly with a company underwriter. "We no longer have separate access points but the power of them working together," says Mr. Moon.

In a global survey,

executives said they

72 percent of insurance

believe electronic com-

merce will have a pro-

found impact on their

industry. Some insur-

ance companies have

Web and intranets to

already begun using the

sell and deliver policies,

process claims, improve

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dle their products with

are important for insurers in

MarketSpace study, but there

world, while only 47 percent

of Americans have personal

life insurance. Developing

spending on commercial in-

surance, while mature mar-

kets are spending less in per-

to understand their customers

with a demanding customer

Insurance companies need

centage terms.

are regional variations.

related types of pro-

ducts and services.

Deregulation has already had a powerful effect on insurance in many Western countries and will do so as it markets are increasing their takes hold elsewhere. Notes Ms. Rometty, "The Japanese insurance market, which has traditionally been highly regulated, is rapidly becoming deregulated, and we are seeing a lot of activity there. better and develop more-tar-Australia (already deregu- geted products more quickly lated] simply exploded when and cost-effectively, a formi-

Changing consumer pref- base.

## HOW TO FIND AND KEEP PROFITABLE CUSTOMERS

An integrated profile of a customer can be created from data a company already has on hand.

nsurance marketers today would take heart from Robert Frost's famous line, "Something there is that doesn't love

. a wall, that wants it down." The wall separating Mr. Client's account in the same company by policy line means that marketing and customer service never have a full profile of Mr. Client. Did he buy a low-cost term life policy one year and a rather expensive homeowner's policy two years later? Insurance companies wanting to take full advantage of the information stored on their computer systems are often hampered because their existing systems were set up separately by product line. This means that there is no integrated profile of the customer who buys term life one year and a homeowner's policy the next.

Product development based on market segmentation was "relatively crude" in the past, says Thierry Polski, global segment manager, IBM global insurance. But today insurance companies need to understand their customers better. or a competitor who does will take away business.

Some customers want "infinite variety" in insurance offerings, others don't, explains John Moon, IBM global insurance unit. "Companies have to decide which market they want and then develop products for that segment."

For example, Direct Line, a British insurer, offers a few standard policies on-line geared to the middle-class majority. It supports them with high-quality customer care, targeted marketing and low prices.

To build customer management systems, insurance companies must combine the information stored in their databases, much as banks and brokerage firms have been doing for more than a decade. Technology provides the tools to put this data together, cleanse it and store it in data warehouses where it may be accessible to the marketing department, finance or the broker network. "Building a marketing database takes between six and 12 months," says Mr. Polski, "but the payoff can be a significant reduction in marketing costs.

IBM's Customer Prospect Optimiser helps companies identify the most likely prospects for certain lines of business. based on past customer behavior. A campaign management application to help insurance companies build and track their marketing efforts, linking the results to the data warehouse, is also required. "You can follow the different steps of the campaign and gather information from the resulting contacts. whether they come through the agent, a call center, direct marketing or a Web site," explains Mr. Polski.

Just a 5 percent improvement in customer retention rate The Japanese per-capita equals a 36 percent increase in profitability for insurers, according to a study by Bain & Co., a management conlife insurance coverage is three times higher than that sulting firm. • of any other country in the

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON e-Business:

Contact IBM by e-mail at kbousquet@fr.ibm.com or by fax at +331 41 88 52 50.

For examples of European e-business initiatives, consult http://www.europe.ibm.com/nc/customer.

Look for the "Business to e-Business" series on the IHT Web site at http://www.iht.com/IHT/SUP/ebiz.html. The Web version of "Business to e-Business: Insurance" hotlinks the following key words to other relevant

 Marketspace ● Internet risks ● Secure Electronic Transaction • datá warehouse

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THE PERSON NAMED IN

By 2001, \$1.1 billion in will be generated on the Net by U.S.

insurance as they are for travel or consumer goods. Instrers have long maintained hat such products must be by agents, because consare not willing to buy hem on their own.

Home, life and auto Nevertheless, by the year

2001, just over \$1.1 billion in insurance premiums will be enerated on the Net by U.S.

consumers alone, a little less
than 7 percent of all ums in the United States, esumates Forrester Research.

The reason is that the Inlowering costs after direct investments.

# BUYING ON THE WEB could not dencers, it is dencers. It is not concert.

Customers are checking out prices on the Net.

o customers buy in- mail and telemarketing. John surance, or is it sold to them? The question is a serious one for inagement solutions, IBM globsurance, or is it sold Moon, marketing manager, surance companies that wonall insurance, describes it as
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Because of its nature, insurance is a "grudge service product, not one neonle seel products has been exproduct, not one people seek tremely successful in Britain and in the United States. Although section in the United States. Schoeman Rudman, director, though continental Europe metworking computing. IBM metworking computing, IBM today looks at the telephone global insurance.

bulk! It would seem that custhe roll of tomers would not be as momore as a service medium than a buying meternet — more as a service medium than a buying me dium, that too is changing.

Checking out prices As a first step, consumers can use the Web to compare prices and features from Web site to Web site. "Prices are everywhere on

the Net," says Mr. Rudman of IBM. He predicts a "huge shakeup in price and value for money. Second, buyers can turn to

Web-based entrants such as insWeb or Quicken InsureMarket, and compare quotes from hundreds of companies on one site.

InsWeb takes fees for passing on leads, while more as an agent. With its customer base of about 10 million users, Quicken represents a potential competitor to insurance companies as well as a channel of distri-

In Sweden, the Internet is being used to sell relatively than 7 percent of all term life, complex pension plans to a computer-literate young, market LIVIA is a low-cost insurance and pension company; it wanted to be able to ternet represents low-cost di- explain to potential custom-

#### Assessing the Risks of the Internet Thanks to the Internet, a new insurance site or due to a site not working properly.

Today's Internet

risky by some

would help alleviate

business is being built. The role of insurance companies is to reduce risk, both for stable and secure marketplace. Today's in- unauthorized, a lawsuit may result.

ternet environment is still so new that it is seen as risky by some businesses. An insurance underpinning would help alleviate that concern.

"We are creating an insurance industry that didn't exist before," says Steve Adler, eRisk solutions manager, IBM global insurance industry.

He points out that insurable risk is based on a prop-

erly built system. A company's Web site, desired definition of terms and exclusions. intranet and extranets should be well designed, well monitored and property eninherently safer than the real world to do business, if it is done right," he says.

valuable information on company databases. Web site managers or internet Service providers may be liable for financial loss due to inaccurate information offered on a and losers," summarizes Mr. Adler.

Most content on the Web today has the same kind of legal liability as advertising individuals and for businesses and orga- (unless it is clearly designated as editorial, nizations. Insurable safety standards level as in a newspaper), if Web site information the commercial playing field, creating a is viewed as false, defamatory, libelous or

To develop policies that will cover Internet risk and exposure, insurers need to environment is still so understand the technological characteristics of the new that it is seen as Internet, how they reflect and deviate from more-familiar liabilities. A methodology developed by IBM, eRisk, takes insurers through an easy-to-follow question-and-answer process to determine the scope of coverage and the

This year, U.S.-based Reliance National and Codan of Denmark, among others, will forced. "We believe that the Internet is be releasing eRisk insurance products on an international basis. By assessing commercial risk on the Internet, Insurance Internet risks include damage or theft of companies "can establish Internet security construction codes and transaction encryption standards, and let market forces premiums and losses -- dictate the winners

IBM helped them set up an easy-to-follow interactive calculation system over the Web. Prospects fill it out online, and a program calculates their pension and dis-

Quicken InsureMarket acts plays it graphically.

more as an agent. With its The third step is to sell cure Electronic Transaction) protocols become more widely used, on-line insurance sales will become more commonplace.

At the IBM-designed Web site of International Health Insurance, a Danish company with clients in more rect selling, the next level of ers the future value of their SET-protected information is from its low-cost, high ex-

policy is sent back electronically. The process can save professor John Sviokla, who weeks compared to the faxand-mail system.

New distribution channel To reinforce the Web's suitability as an insurance disdirectly on-line. As SET (Se-tribution channel, on-line er to the provider of inforelectronic linkages are important. Mr. Rudman suggests linking real estate sites to home insurance or travel sites to travel insurance. Banks are already doing this by linking mortgage information

Two percent of all autothan 150 countries, custom- mobiles in the United States interactive TV, not comers fill out a form with their are sold through a Web site puters," he says. "At that personal and credit card de- called Auto-by-Tel. Geico rails and send it on-line. The auto insurance has benefited American pitchmanil will sell processed, and the insurance posure presence on the site.

homeowner's insurance.

Harvard Business School examined Auto-by-Tel in his 1996 study, "Marketspace Markets," describes the significance of this case: "The decision to purchase insurance is moved from the deal-

mation. He speculates that in the future, the Web will become the storefront of choice for term life and car insurance. leaving complex products in the hands of brokers.

"Remember that the next version of the Web will be point, Ed McMahon Ian me Brand X life insurance, immediately, on the tube."

## NETWORKS SQUEEZE COSTS

Eliminating paperwork saves money and increases efficiency.

reducing costs. The insurance industry very business today is interested in among the most onerous in financial services is especially motivated to do so.

As lower-cost-of-business models enter their market, existing insurance companies are being forced to rethink how they do business. "If they don't, the market will fragment around them while they worry about their broker network," says John Moon, marketing manager, customer relationships management solutions, IBM global

One way to reduce costs is to reduce paperwork. Today, says Graham Mansfield, insurance solutions manager for IBM, 90 million transactions take place per day for commercial insurance. Most of this flow among risk managers, brokers, underwriters and reinsurers is handled by hand or by fax, with just a little beginning to appear in c-mail.

IBM has just announced a strategic alliance with the London Insurance Market Network (LIMNET) to develop a common platform that will facilitate information flow among the various parties in commercial insurance.

Call centers, computer-assisted customerservice management and the Internet hold great promise for cost reductions and increased efficiency.

Some insurance companies have already realized that the Internet is not an "either-or with their existing distribution networks of tied or independent agents. Quite the opposite: The Internet and its associated technologies can help companies work more closely with their agents and brokers, lowercustomer service.

For example, a Forrester Research study found that the underwriting process dropped from eight to two weeks using Net-based power and reduced potential for error." •



technology for application data.

Agents with intranet (internal network) connections to an insurer spend less time on paperwork and administration and more time doing what people do best, serving the customer," says Michael Gazala, a senior analyst at Forrester.

The reduction of sales and general administration costs is desirable in any business, points out Mr. Moon of IBM, because it reduces paper, processes and personnel. "And S&GA has not been heavily automated in insurance," he notes.

Intranet links through IBM's InsureIntra and InsureAgent solutions facilitate updates on new products and marketing strategies, make it possible for agents to take training courses right at their desks and simplify claims procedures. One application, Insure-Glass, is being used by Guardian Insurance in Canada for auto glass claims.

The benefits to our organization are nuing costs, raising productivity and improving merous," says Gord Seanor, a claims manager at Guardian. He lists "an improved audit trail, standardized claims processing, reduced handling time that frees up valuable man-

"BUSINESS TO e-BUSINESS: INSURANCE" is the seventh page in a series that addresses the impact of electronic business on various industries. It is an IHT/IBM initiative sponsored by IBM and produced by the IHT Advertising/Supplements Department. WRITER: Claudia Flisi, based in the South of France. ILLUSTRATIONS: Karen Sheckler-Wilson.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Bill Mahder.

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Continued on Page 16

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7.8% Results:

In Ahead

or Bulls?

By David Barboza hen here Times Service W YORK - They call al season." the period wa me America begins to warm ad the troubles that lie abou is a time near the end of zwhen companies begin ku in had news, acknowle agales grow th 2! home, deci shoud backlogs in inventor allisher Co., Nike Inc., Intel® James Computer Corp. Isan ain first-quarter forecasts. liked stock analysis to love TANNOT JUST for these comp amarket over all. These a me to First Call Inc., which Bestimates, now expect t an's biggest companie a percent in the first q pace of the decade. minion is beginning to and the year. Will the ce

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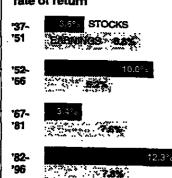
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PAGE 13

#### **Reversal of Fortune**

Over time, corporate earnings and stock prices have grown at roughly the same pace, 8 percent. But according to a Federal Reserve study, these rates of growth rarely coincide. In the current bull market, stocks have outpaced earnings, a trend history suggests may end soon.

S&P 500 annualized rate of return



## '98 Results: Trap Ahead For Bulls?

By David Barboza New York Times Service

NEW YORK — They call it the "confessional season," the period when corporate America begins to warn Wall Street of the troubles that lie ahead.

It is a time near the end of each quarter when companies begin to leak out their bad news, acknowledging slowing sales growth at home, declining sales abroad, backlogs in inventory and cyclical downtums in business.

Walt Disney Co., Nike Inc., Intel Corp. and Compaq Computer Corp. have all made dire first-quarter forecasts, causing Wall Street stock analysts to lower their estimates not just for these companies but for the market over all. These analysts, according to First Call Inc., which tracks earnings estimates, now expect profits at the nation's biggest companies to grow less than 2 percent in the first quarter, the slowest pace of the decade.

But attention is beginning to shift to the end of the year. Will the coming slowdown be just a blip or something more sustained?

Stock analysts, an optimistic group by nature, continue to make robust predictions for the second half of the year. By their count, profits could show tremendous gains, up 17 percent in the fourth quarter.

But if their forecasts prove overly optimistic, as some vocal market strategists suggest, investors may be in for a sharp sell-off in the latter part of the year.
"We think there's going to be a big

squeeze on profits this year," said Cynthis Latta, an economist at DRI/Mc-Graw-Hill. "We're calling it a big turn-

ing-point year."

After six years of mostly double-digit profit gains, the case for a longer lasting slowdown is growing. Labor costs are rising, companies are grappling with the year 2000 computer software problem, and the economic squeeze in Asia is only beginning to take its toll on American business. And after years of restructuring and productivity improvements. companies appear to be running out of ways to expand their profit margins.

Even the rosy stock analysts accept that these factors have conspired against companies early this year. First Call said estimates have been "falling like a stone" in recent weeks. IBES International Inc., another earnings watcher, said that estimates suffered the largest downward revision last month in more than five years. Since Jan. 9, estimates of first-quarter earnings growth have plummeted from 10 percent for the stocks in the Standard & Poor's 500 to 2

percent, the lowest since 1991.
"We haven't seen anything like this since the recession of 1990," said James Glassman, a senior economist at Chase

See PROFITS, Page 17

INTERNATIONAL MANAGER

## Prince Walid Takes a 'Calculated Risk'

Saudi Billionaire Defends His Trail-Blazing Investments in South Korea

Saudi billionaire who has made hundreds of millions of dollars of high-profile investments in companies around the world—from Apple Com-puter Inc. to EuroDisney and Citicorp—met with President Kim Dae Jung on Tuesday in Seoul after agreeing to invest \$150 million in Daewoo Corp. and Hyundai Motor Co. He discussed his impressions of South Korea's business conditions with Don Kirk of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. You've talked to top executives from all the major conglomerates, or chaebol here. How serious are they about restructuring in a manment and the IMF?

A. I don't think they can do it right away. It has to be gradual. The government has no choice but to work with the chaebol. The chaebol have no choice but to work with the government.

Q. Any chance that your investments will turn sour if the Korean economy fails to recover as hoped?

A. My investments are in convertible bonds, and they are dollar-denominated. So if the won goes up and down, I'll still get my money back unless the company goes under. I have three years with Hyundai and five years with Dae-woo. If I don't convert at that time, I say, thank you, give me my money and my

Q. You've shown your confidence by vesting here. Will others follow quickly in your wake?

A. It's not going to be very quick. There are those investors, the Soros types, who have come here. They are not going to dump money. They have to see stability here. You have a new president. It's a new era. Q. So why are you the first to take

your chances? A. It's a calculated risk. Look how Korea was 30 years ago. There was nothing here. It's not going to be easy. There is corruption, but the work ethics

are incredible. Q. What else got you interested in this new frontier of investment?

A. I am heavily invested in America. am very much invested in Europe. Now we are talking about Africa. I see opportunities in the Far East. Sure, there was corruption. Sure, there was leniency in lending, but these Korean companies are to be reckoned with.

. How did you form this

of Korean companies? A. I have interacted with Korean companies for many years in Saudi Arabia. My company, Kingdom Holding, had joint ventures with Hyundai, Halla, Dong-A, Kolon, Kukdong in the Middle

East. I have been dealing with more than 15 Korean companies as contractors. Q. Now that you've got a foothold in Asia, what else are you doing in the

A. We are looking at the Mori Group in Japan to develop a mixed-use [real estate] proposal.

Q. You have praised the IMF for the rescue plan it has required here, but the IMF does have its critics. Would you offer any criticism or advice?

A. I heard the IMF comes and has a certain recipe and applies it in Mexico and Africa and here. Maybe they should more take the local flavor of that country and adapt it.

Q. The IMF believes strongly that Korea should keep interest rates high to avoid easy credit, a devaluation of the won and worsening economic problems in general. The Koreans want to lower erest rates so business can get the money it needs to manufacture more products for export. Who's right?

A. There's no choice but to keep interest rates up. If they bring them down too low, the won may be affected. It's a game. I saw they have no choice. They cannot have it comparable to the dollar right now. They have to keep it high, even though high is damaging in Q. What other steps should the coun-

**CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES** 

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**Key Money Rates** 

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ner that satisfies the govern- Prince Walid ibn Talal in a 1996 photograph.

try take to improve the economy? A. They have to have this confidencebuilding. They have to open up the country more. They have already taken steps. When I first wanted to invest in one of the chaebol, the limit was 6 percent. Now it's around 40 percent.

Q. Should they act fast to open up still

A. It's going to take time. It's not going to finish quickly. I would like them to maximize the opening to for-eign investment. If you're going to have a free market, you have to have a free market all the way. Some banks would like to come here and open completely.

Q. Are you afraid of a reaction against excessive foreign investment here?

A. If a foreign company comes to buy a company and keeps the employees there, this is a form of nationalism. If the government handles the matter in a gentle way and tells the people we're having this company and tells the

employees we're safeguard-ing their deposits, why would there be a reaction against it? Q. How about Kingdom Holding Co. What else do you have in mind?

A. We're interested in hotels. We are talking about this hotel, too [the Shilla. owned by Samsung Group, where the prince spent three nights]. We are talking to many different people.

## JAL's Top 2 to Resign As Big Losses Loom

Forecasts Force 150 Billion Yen Write-Off

TOKYO - The president of Japan Airlines Co., Akira Kondo, announced Tuesday that he and the chairman of the company would resign over losses stemming from increased competition and failed resort developments.

The largest Japanese airline forecast a group net loss of 70 billion yen (\$502 million) for the year, 65 billion yen more than its earlier estimate, and a parent company net loss of 97 billion yen, compared with its earlier forecast of zero profit.

"I'm really sorry about what has happened and so I've decided to step down," Mr. Kondo said. He and Chairman Susumu Yamaji will step down at the airline's annual shareholders meeting in June, he said.

Isao Kaneko, senior managing director, will become president, Mr. Kondo said. He did not say who the new chairman would be.

The two executives are resigning to take responsibility for a 150 billion yen write-off that airline officials announced as they provided the new earnings estimates

A senior vice president, Tatsuru

Fukaya, said that more than half of the losses were caused by hotels in the United States and resorts in Southeast Asia that the airline built or bought during an ambitious expansion in the 1980s.

Several of these properties could be sold, he said, and the company will now "concentrate" on its main business: commercial air service. Other cost-cutting measures include trimming 1,500 ground crew jobs.

The airline has seen profit margins evaporate as it cuts prices to compete with U.S. and other international airlines following a pact between Washington and Tokyo. Japanese individuals and companies also are slashing travel spending

because of a weak economy JAL plans to use 14.5 billion yen of its voluntary reserves, 7.3 billion yen of earnings reserves and 130 billion yen of its capital reserves to erase its losses, the company said.

Current, or pretax, profit is seen falling 72.2 percent to 5 billion yen from its previous forecast of 18 bil-lion yen, he said.

JAL shares finished 9 yen higher at 513 yen. (AP, Bloomberg, Reuters)

## Brisk Business for Computer Security Companies

By Rajiv Chandrasekaran Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON - Locked in a mail room on the fourth floor of a Washington-area office building, Denis Hein starts his invasion.

Computer printouts stacked around his chair, he begins tapping away on two gray Toshiba Tecra laptops. The messages that say "Log-in incorrect" do not faze him. He stretches his neck and tries a new set of commands, this time coming up with slightly more encouraging results. Fifteen minutes later, he smirks at a colleague. He's in.

But Mr. Hein is not your ordinary hacker. An employee of Trusted Information Systems Inc., a computersecurity company in Glenwood, Maryland, Mr. Hein was trying to find the weak links in a client's data network, the way a security guard jiggles doors and windows to make sure they are locked. More often than not, the 27-year-old self-described professional backer finds a way in. Sometimes he can pry open most every enti

In this case, Mr. Hein and a co-worker had been given the task of determining how vulnerable an engineering company's 24 "servers" were. Those



servers are home to sensitive files and schematic drawings unscrupulous competitors would

love to see. The engineering company had installed

Mr. Hein and his colleague in an office with a phone jack that connected into its data network, the same sort of access a janitor could have at night. With nothing fancier than his two laptops, Mr. Hein fired up a variety of programs that are commonly used by backers. The programs generated reams of numerical data indicating which "ports," or win-

dows, on a server appeared ajar. Once Mr. Hein was inside the server, he was able to find the system administrator's password file, but the data were scrambled. No matter. Another file he found indicated what type of datascrambling system the server used. He then got his computer to search for the password by scrambling every word from Webster's dictionary, the dialogue of all three "Star Wars" movies, each "Star Trek" episode and every J.R.R. Tolkien novel — all favorites of the

techie class. A little more than two hours later, Mr. Hein became ''root'' on the server, allowing him access to every file on the machine. As he says, "On that server, I was God."

Trusted Information was hired by a demand for their products surge over the last two years, as corporations have Network Associates Inc., a fast-growing manager at the engineering firm who wanted to show his superiors that dedecided to connect more of their comspite a raft of basic protections, the puters to local area networks and the company's network was far from se-cure. Mr. Hein expects the company to

spend "several million dollars" upgrading its systems after it receives a detailed accounting of his exploits. That's where companies like Trusted come into the picture. Among other products, Trusted makes "fire walls," which act like doors to parts of a network, admitting only authorized users. Fire walls are commonly used to prevent visitors to a company's World

Wide Web site from gaining access to the organization's internal network. Companies like Trusted have seen

Over the past year, for example, Axent Technologies Inc. of Rockville, Maryland, which also helps system administrators manage security, saw its revenue jump 89 percent, while and Trusted's rose 54 percent. That success has spurred major business deals recently for both companies.

In early February, Axent acquired Raptor Systems Inc., a maker of fire walls in Waltham, Massachusetts, for about \$245 million in stock. The purchase makes the company the nation's third-largest computer-security firm,

security company based in Santa Clara, California, said it would spend \$307 million to buy Trusted. The deal, which has not yet closed, would make Network Associates the biggest player in the security market.

Analysts say the deals were largely driven by a need to offer one-stop shopping to corporate customers, who prefer to buy security products from one large

The network-security business is projected to grow from a little more than \$2 billion last year to almost \$7 billion by 2000, according to the securities firm

See HACKERS, Page 17

Global Private Banking

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U.S. dollars per ounce. London official fixings: Zurich and New York opening and closing prices: New York Comex (April.)

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o Republic National Bank of New York, 1998

#### Very briefly:

 Apartment Investment & Management Co. said it had agreed to acquire some holdings of Insignia Financial Group Inc. in a \$910 million deal that combines the largest U.S. operators of multifamily housing.

 Texas Utilities Co. is seeking to increase its bid for Energy Group PLC of Britain to a 22 percent stake from a 14.9 percent stake, market sources said. Texas is battling PacifiCorp for control of the British group.

• The American Bankers Association said the number of U.S. credit-card holders behind on their payments fell in the fourth quarter of 1997 to 3.04 percent of credit-card accounts, a three-year low, from 3.53 percent in the third quarter, as banks reaped the benefits of tighter limits on credit-card usage.

• Comsat Corp. sold its RSI telecommunications equipment company to TBG Industries Inc. for about \$116.5 million almost a year after putting it up for sale.

 Safety-Kleen Corp. agreed to be acquired by Laidlaw Environmental Services Inc. for \$2.1 billion, ending months of fighting over the waste-management company,'s hostile

#### Dow Jones to Sell 'Markets' Service

NEW YORK — Dow Jones & Co. acknowledged Tuesday that it would sell its financial information service soon, the first time that the media giant was specific in its intentions for the ailing subsidiary.

Dow Jones, in a filing with the Securities and Exchange

Commission, said the sale of Dow Jones Markets would come

Dow Jones, the publisher of The Wall Street Journal, last year lost \$802.1 million because of charges of \$922.5 million to write down the value of Markets. Bridge Information Systems Inc. had reportedly been near an agreement to buy Markets, but negotiations between the two sides broke down this month.

**AMEX** 

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Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

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The 300 most traded stocks of the day,

## **Mixed Signals** From Japan

## Weigh on Dollar

NEW YORK — The dollar slipped against the yen on Tuesday amid mixed signals from Japanese officials on the government's plans to revive the stagnant economy.

The yen was lifted after Taku Yamasaki of the Liberal Democratic Party said the

#### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

governing party was considering a plan to lower the maximum income-tax rate to 45 percent or 50 percent from 65 percent, according to Jiji

'The whole world is telling them they need to do something dramatic to get their economy going," said Richard Koss, a currency strategist at MFR Inc. The tax plan was holding the dollar back, he said.

In 4 P.M. trading, the dollar was at 128.82 yen, down 29.61 yen from Monday.

Koji Omi, director-general of the Economic Planning Agency, said the government's latest proposal was two-thirds complete and conained measures that would give the economy an imme-diate jolt. He added, however, that it would be delayed past its expected release date next week and that the government was undecided about whether to increase spending.

We all know the Japanese economy is in pretty poor shape, and everyone's waiting to see what this fiscal package is going to be," said Jay Bryson, international economist at First Union Capital Markets.

The dollar was quoted at 1.8189, virtually unchanged from Monday ahead of a closely watched report on West German business confidence due Thursday.

Investors are awaiting the Ifo economic research institute's report for any signs Germany's nascent recovery might be picking up speed.

Against other major currencies, the dollar edged up to 6.0975 francs and to 1.4793 Swiss francs from 1.4780

The pound rose to \$1.6743

# Blue Chips Inch Ahead, but Tech Shares Fall MSF and

Crempiled by Our Staff From Disputches Asian turmoil would undermine com-

puter companies' profits and a semiconductor maker reported a loss. Oil-related issues also declined, as a benchmark price for crude oil fell

below \$13 for the first time in nine The Dow Jones industrial average

broader-based Standard & Poor's 500 index edged up 1.18 point, to 1,080.45, but the technology-heavy Nasdaq Composite index fell 8.88 points, to 1,779.30.

Stocks were little affected by two

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks were construction of new homes and apart-often spur buying, fueling growth. mixed Tuesday, with blue-chip shares ments, propelled by low mortgage in record territory but technology shares dropping after a report said the percent in February to the highest its yield up to 5.88 percent from 5.86 level in more than a decade. But the

#### U.S. STOCKS

government also reported that industrial production failed to show an increase for the first time since 1996. But bonds dropped on the data,

finished up 31.14 at 8,749.99, a record which gave investors little incentive to buy government paper with yields at

Bond investors were looking for more conclusive evidence that the economy is slowing, after it grew at its fastest pace in almost a decade last reports offering mixed economic sig- year. The jump in housing starts ogy fell 11/4 to 32 after the maker of

The benchmark 30-year Treasury

percent on Monday "In order for us to buy, yields would need to climb some more," said Michael Kennedy of Stein Roe.

"Things seem to be, at least on the manufacturing side, slowing down," said Ted Flint of First Midwest Trust Co. "I'm mildly bullish."

A slowdown might limit inflation, which eats into the value of bonds' lowest level in more than three fixed payments. U.S. manufacturers are expected to be hit by the ongoing economic turmoil in Asia as U.S. exports to the region decline and cheap imports into the United States rise.

Among stocks, Micron Technol-

nals. The Commerce Department said served as a reminder that low rates semiconductors reported a loss from operations for its second quarter. A report by International Data Crie

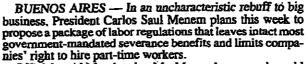
poration said, "Sagging Asian economies and continued price volatility in the memory segment have dampened but not extinguished, worldwide

semiconductor revenue growth." Microsoft fell 1% to 80% on report that the Department of Justice has expanded its antitrust probe of the

company to include issues relating to Sun Microsystems' Java software Chevron fell 13/16 to 82 1/16 and Exxon dropped 1/4 to 62 5/16 on the declining oil prices. Nobody wants them," said John Cleland of Security Benefit Group. "As the price goes down, exploration activity is less attractive, and that argues against anyone wanting to own anything that's in oil production." (AP, Bloomberg)

## Argentine Labor Plan Favors Unions

By Clifford Krauss



Officials said Monday that Mr. Menem's proposal would end several years of policy debates within the governing Peronist Party on how to change Argentine labor laws inherited from the time of General Juan Domingo Peron in the 1950s. In the end, they said, Mr. Menem decided to leave the old structure virtually untouched.

The labor plan, which the Argentine Congress is expected to pass, would modestly help businesses by limiting required severance payments for new workers to the equivalent of 15 months' wages. Otherwise, the proposal fulfills a long list of union demands that will leave the General Confederation of Workers, or CGT, in a commanding position in economic propose new labor laws. affairs.

National labor leaders would retain the power to negotiate contracts covering workers in entire sectors of the economy, including companies large and small, national and foreign. The government would eviscerate a law passed three years ago, which created 12 categories of temporary employment and allowed private companies to hire thousands of part-time

employees without paying payroll taxes.
Business executives, having pressed for a plan that would guarantee part-time employment status and allow for separate labor contracts covering individual companies, were critical They said the plan was a political maneuver by Mr. Menem to pick up labor support in an attempt to win his Peronist Party's nomination for a rare third term in elections next year.

Government officials denied the decision was political, contending that the policy would be good for the country. They noted that private companies had flourished in recent years.

The president's new proposal includes no provision regarding health plans and leaves companies with the full responsibility of paying severance equivalent to one month's wages for every year of service, up to a limit of 15 years. Executives call this a deterrent to hiring new workers.

## Washington Mutual to Acquire Ahmanson for \$9.9 Billion

President Menem will

LOS ANGELES — The largest U.S. savings-and-loan bank, Washington Mutual Inc., said Tuesday it, was expanding further with a deal to buy it closest rival, H.F. Ahmanson & Co., for \$9.9 billion in stock.

The purchase will create the seventh-largest financial institution in the United States, serving nearly 6 6.0985 French francs from million households, mostly in the West, with more than 2,000 offices and nearly \$150 billion in assets.

The banks, which fought over the \$8 billion purchase of Great Western

directors had approved the deal, for each Ahmanson share. That rep- banks yet continue its focus on contransaction late in the third quarter.

The deal is expected to result in consolidation of 3,000 to 3,500 jobs, or about 10 percent of the more than 31,000 people now employed by the

Washington Mutual also said it would consolidate 160 to 170 branches after the acquisition. The deal should generate savings of \$330 million a year, the company said.

Under the terms of the buyout, Ahmanson shareholders will get 1.12

March 17, 1998

sea - conta per la 49.05 48.05 48.87 56.35 53.85 56.37 56.25 55.55 56.20 54.07 53.20 53.95 51.40 50.95 51.40 rs 7,168 Mons soles 5.986 pen lati 48.013 up 125

Ahmanson stock based on the closing price Monday for Washington Mutual. That also represents a 33 percent premium over Ahmanson's closing price Monday on the New York Stock Exchange of \$65.50 a share.

Kerry Killinger, president and main head of the combined company, whose name will continue to be Washington Mutual.

"With this transaction, we are creating a premier institution that will

which is expected to close as a tax-free resents a price of \$80.36 per share for sumers and small business," Mr. Killinger said.

Ahmanson also said that because of the deal with Washington Mutual, it had ended a \$400 million stock-repurchase program announced in November.

Ahmanson is the parent company CEO of Washington Mutual, will re- of Home Savings of America, a consumer and business bank that operates 40 branches in Texas.

Ahmanson's shares finished Tuesday at \$78.50, up \$13. Washington Mutual's shares were at \$73, up (AP. Reuters)

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USF AG and Bayer AG packs profits Tuesday for 1997; manies overtook the pas leader in the German change Sidesty, Hoechst AG. HAS SPETAL FOOTH TOSE 21 DEP ha marks (\$2.93 billions). We have the parties of t BASE's sales placed and Germany's "big three"

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Novaris reported a net profi min the first full year sin mand by the merger of Cibia #AG and Sandoz AG. 1997 profit was 43 percen han what the compa atheprevious year, while sale 29 percent, to 31.18 bills The company elimina Jobs last year but added 2.3 mes, half of them outside

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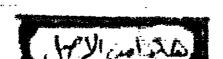
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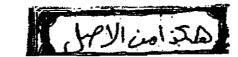
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BASF' first among Germany s

chemicals makers.

Bayer moved to second in the sector on 1997 sales of 55 billion

DM, a 13 percent increase. Hoechst earlier reported that it had 52.1 billion DM in sales last year.

cent, to 5.11 billion DM, and it said earnings and sales would grow 4 percent in 1998, which would make

Growth at both Bayer and BADE was fueled by strong foreign demand, as well as favorable exchange rate factors.

Bayer shares finished 10 pfennig higher at 79.55 DM. The company higher at 79.55 DM. The company

Bayer shares finished 10 prening higher at 79.55 DM. The company had released preliminary results last week. BASF shares rose 1.15 DM to 73.80 DM.

"The BASF numbers were very,

"The BASF numbers were very, very good," said Christiane Dienhart, analyst at Bayerische Vereinsbank in Munich. "Better than our trations. It's a strange situation expectations. It is a smaller because everyone was expecting a because everyone was expecting a because everyone was expecting positive surprise. But this is a very positive surprise."

Hoechst is going through a re-

structuring to transform itself into a pure life-sciences company by 2000, and its sales have been hit by disposal of noncore chemicals

subsidiaries. The Swiss pharmaceuticals comof 5.21 billion Swiss francs (\$3.33 billion) for the first full year since it measured by the merger of Ciba-

Geigy AG and Sandoz AG.
The 1997 profit was 43 percent higher than what the companies earned the previous year, while sales rose 19 percent, to 31.18 billion francs. The company eliminated 9,100 jobs last year but added 2,400 employees, half of them outside of Switzerland.

> Other major European companies that also reported results included: Diageo PLC's pretax profit was £1.95 billion (\$3.26 billion) in 1997 before exceptional items, a 2 percent

increase over the 1996 results for the units making up the 1997 merger. Sales were £12.39 billion, down from the £13.44 billion generated in 1996 by the beverage operations of Grand Metropolitan PLC and Guinness PLC.

• Credit Suisse Group, the parent of the investment bank Credit Suisse First Boston Inc., posted 1997 net profit of 397 million Swiss francs on strong growth in income, especially from its bond unit.

The banking giant had reported a loss of 2.1 billion francs in 1996, due to huge restructuring costs related to Manfred Schneider, the chairman of the board of Bayer AG, its acquisition of Winterthur Insur- announcing record earnings Tuesday at a press conference. ance Group.

• Lloyd's reported 1995 pretax profit of £1.007 billion, against £1.013 billion in 1994, and predicted difficult years to follow.

The insurer, which gives its re
• Continental AG said pretax profit rose 26 percent, to 155 million DM, for the fourth quarter, amid cost-cuting. Net profit for the year rose 67 percent, to 322 million DM.(Reuters, AP, AFP, Bloomberg)

## Paris Gets Windfall From Its Stock Portfolio

shareholder in need of money: the government.

Dividends from just three state-controlled companies - France Telecom SA, Thomson-CSF and Renault SA — should reach at least 5.1 billion francs (\$835.1 million) this year.

Including the withholding tax the government also collects on dividends, the three companies will pay the state the equivalent of 0.1 percent of gross domestic product. That amount can be crucial as the government struggles to keep its deficit at or below 3 percent of GDP to qualify for Europe's planned Economic and Monetary Union.

"Whether it's turnaround efforts at the companies themselves, or just the economic turnaround, there's no question that they are going to be a major help to the state accounts this year," said Hugues de Montvalon, economist at Oddo & Cie.

PARIS — The rising profits and higher dividends in which the government sold a 25 percent stake in this year of French companies will benefit a major October, is expected to announce Wednesday that it posted a profit of 15 billion francs for 1997.

It has said it will pay 40 percent to 50 percent of its earnings in dividends this year, its first as a listed company. With the government still holding 75 percent, that would mean at least 4.5 billion francs for the

France will also receive 386 million francs in dividends from its 48 percent stake in Renault SA. The carmaker said last week it would pay a dividend of 3.5 francs a share, its first since 1996, as it rebounded to a 5.43 billion franc profit from a loss of 5.25 billion the year before.

And Thomson-CSF, a maker of electronic systems, said last week it would raise its dividend 29 percent, to 3.6 francs a share, providing 249 million francs for the government, which has a 58 percent stake in the company.

### **GEC Might Bid for Lockheed and Northrop Defense Units**

Bloomberg News

LONDON - General Electric Co. of Britain said Tuesday it might bid for some of the business of Lockheed Martin Corp. and Northrop Grumman Corp. if the companies put them up for sale.

Lockheed Martin is weighing disposals to meet the U.S. Justice Department's concerns that its \$12 billion purchase of Northrop Grumman will limit competition in procurement of military materiel.

The Washington Post reported that the Justice Department was pressing both companies to come up with a plan by Wednesday to overcome antitrust objections.

"We've said we'd be interested in increasing our base in U.S. defense electronics," a GEC spokesman, said, adding, "It's possible some opportunities may arise." GEC set up a 6 billion European currency unit (\$6.52 billion) credit facility last month, adding to a cash pile that stood at £1.2 billion (\$2 billion) last

"I don't think there's much doubt they have the firepower to do some major deals," said Michael Blogg, an analyst at Charterhouse Tilney Securities. He has a "buy" rating on GEC's shares. They rose 15 pence Tuesday in London, to close at 442 pence.

**Paris** 

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## **Asia Turmoil** Hits Michelin And LVMH

PARIS - Michelin SA and LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SA are suffering heavily from the Asian crisis, both companies re-

ported Tuesday.

LVMH, the world's largest seller of luxury goods, said sales at its DFS Group duty-free chain, whose shops are mostly in Asia, fell 16 percent in dollar terms last year and 20 percent in the first two months of 1998, as the number of tourists in the region

Michelin, the world's largest tiremaker, said that Asian sales excluding Japan fell 9 percent in 1997 and that 1998 would be another year of "recession" in the region.

LVMH, whose products include Hennessy cognac and Moet champagne as well as cosmetics and luggage, said profit rose 23 percent in 1997, to 4.52 billion francs (\$700 million). But it warned that it was cautious about 1998.

Sales soared 54 percent in 1997 to 48.03 billion francs, while operating profit rose 19 percent to 8.3 billion

Operating profit on champagne and wine rose particularly sharply, climbing 32 percent, but profit on cognac and spirits fell 13 percent to

1.56 billion francs. Nonetheless, Hennessy cognac improved its world market share to 33 percent, with a 17 percent increase in North American sales compensating for the weakness of

Michelin's 1997 profit rose 34 percent to 3.88 billion francs, or 28.5 francs per share. Analysts had expected 1997 earnings per share of 29.50 francs.

the Japanese market, the company

Michelin's profit rose 34 percent in 1997, to 3.88 billion francs, because of higher North American and Enropean sales and cost-cutting efforts. But the company also took an exceptional charge of 153 million francs to cover the sharp declines in

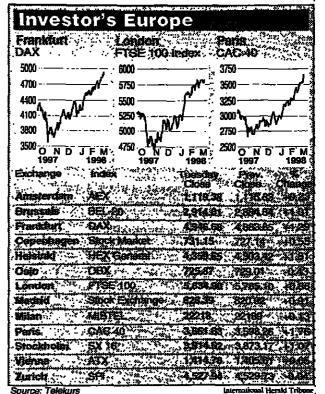
"While sales grew strongly in South America and Japan, they fell markedly in Southeast Asia and South Korea because of the worsening situation" in the second half, the company said.

several Asian currencies.

LVMH shares fell 29 francs to 1,244 francs, while Michelin stock fell 39.6 francs to 369.3 francs. (Bloomberg, AFP)

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#### Very briefly:

Ispat International NV agreed to buy Inland Steel Co. of Chicago for \$1.43 billion in cash and assumed debt. Ispat would become the world's eighth-biggest steel company and expand its operations into the United States.

 The BBC is set to take control of the company that markets two BBC television channels in Europe by buying out stakes held by Pearson PLC and Cox Communications Inc., an industry source said. BBC Worldwide was set to buy the remaining 55 percent stake in European Channel Management, which markets and distributes commercial channels BBC World and BBC Prime in Europe.

• Deutsche Telekom AG said it would lower the fee for its T-Online Internet access service by 37.5 percent, to 3 Deutsche marks (\$1.65) an hour, effective April 1, and said it also expected to cut its telephone rates again as it deals with new

 Mobil Corp. and Hoechst AG said they agreed to form a joint venture for plastic films that is expected to have \$1 billion in annual sales.

• Tulip NV, a Dutch computer maker, said its net losses nearly tripled in 1997, to 27.5 million guilders (\$13.4 million). Sales fell 13 percent to 461 million guilders.

• Bulgarian officials said they would try to collect an estimated \$2 billion from 30 Asian, African and Latin American countries that borrowed the money from Sofia under its previous Communist government. A Finance Ministry panel will begin talks with the debtor countries, including Iraq, which owes about \$1.6 billion.

• Norway will not necessarily have to tighten its budget simply because oil prices have fallen to a nine-year low, Finance Minister Gudmund Restad said. But he said he would adjust downward the government's forecast for oil prices in the revised budget in May. Prices are currently 26 percent below the forecast. Bloomberg, Reuters. AP

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS

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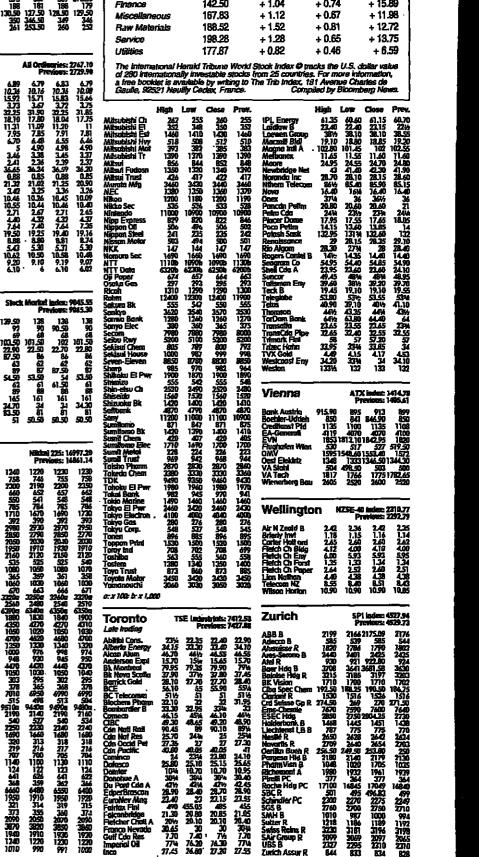
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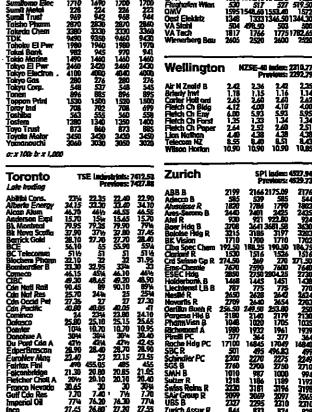
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| 12 March<br>High Law Stock                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             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| 90 ACT MI<br>1996 APT NOT NOT APPLIED<br>45 1494 APPLIED<br>4594 1494 APPLIED<br>35 1794 APPLIED                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                          | - 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| 40 20 ASA Hold<br>50 IAR ASE TU 5<br>20 ASA ASA IAR<br>1074 339 ASA IAR<br>400 27 ATL URAD                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             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| 42% 15% AT/M Inc.<br>25% 10% Arrielli<br>5% 1 Abecus<br>45% 17 Abecus<br>25% 11% Accept                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                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| 264 10% Acted<br>274 18 Acted<br>184 99 Acted<br>20 89 Acted<br>274 114 Acted                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          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| 45% ZEM Allerg<br>27% Elbh Alfrest<br>21% 11% Alfrest<br>48% 15% America<br>37 Z7% AMERCO<br>39 11% Amilyde                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                          | -                                                                                                                                | KERM MORNENDER                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>你然</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
| 37% 16% AmCNED<br>37% 5% AEOGEOS<br>14% 5% Amprico<br>20 7% America<br>27 16% Altariba<br>7% 4 Ambril<br>30 17% AMS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    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| 1914 A ANGELON AND                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 20                                                                                                                                                                       | 11111111111111111111111111111111111111                                                                                           | 多数分子,1945年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年,1948年, |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | [2] 15万万万名,他们是对于15万万万元,这个时间,这个时间,我们是一个时间,我们是一个时间,我们是一个时间,我们是一个时间,我们们是一个时间,我们们们的一个时间,我们们们的时间,我们们们的时间,我们们们的时间,我们们们们的时间,我们们们们的时间,我们们们们的时间,我们们们们的时间,我们们们们们们的时间,我们们们们们们们们们们们们的时间,我们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们的时间,我们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们们 | 这话是个是我的,我们就是我们的是我们的人的人,我们就是我们的人的人,我们就是我们的人,我们也没有的人的人,我们也会会会的人,我们也会会会会会会会会会会会会会会会<br>1965年,我们就是我们的人,我们也是我们的人,我们就是我们的人,我们就是我们的人,我们就是我们是我们的人,我们也是我们的人,我们也是我们也是我们的人,我们也是 |
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| 25% 99% About<br>49% 25% Apple<br>29% 12% Apple<br>20 10% Apple<br>39% 16% Apple<br>40 75% Apple<br>60 75% Apple<br>60 75% Apple<br>61 75% Apple<br>61 75% Apple<br>62 75% Apple<br>63 75% Apple<br>63 75% Apple<br>64 75% Apple<br>65 75% Apple | 20<br>04<br>08                                                                                                                                                           | 1 <u>ā</u><br>-<br>3<br>4                                                                                                        | 可能を対ける                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 脚端                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 136<br>25%<br>140<br>125%                                                                                                                                                                                                             | いるので                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| 274 154 BrownTom<br>124 69 British<br>43h 174 Samers<br>194 644 BrownObj<br>35 153h C-CUBE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             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| 17% 14% NVPM<br>15% 13% NuvP1<br>16% 13% NuvP1<br>16% 12% NuvP14<br>17% 14% NuvP14                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     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MKERS: Part 1

Indition Page 13

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ASIA/PACIFIC

## The Comedown of a Tokyo Titan Public Sours on Finance Ministry as Scandals Abound

By Sheryl WuDunn New York Times Service

TOKYO — Yoichi Otsuki seemed to be enjoying a life of power and prestige, until he fastened a noose to a curtain rod in his apartment and hanged himself.

A longtime official at the Finance Ministry, Mr. Otsuki, 54, was en-conced in an influential job in the ministry's castle-like bastion near the Imperial Palace, Behind these walls, in the "House of the Great Coffers," as it is known in Japanese, Mr. Otsuki worked in the nation's nerve center, the most powerful orgamization in Japan.

The ministry's tentacles touch so policy mismanagement. many facets of political and economic life that its officials wield power without parallel in the West. It has traditionally been more influential than the prime minister or any political party, and because it steers the world's second-biggest economy, the Finance Ministry's smallest maneuvers can move financial markets around the globe.

So it has been an extraordinary comedown since late January, when prosecutors first breached the Finance Ministry's seemingly impregnable walls. They have arrested four ministry officials, including two of Mr. Otsuki's subordinates, for accepting bribes from the financial institutions they oversee.

The scandal in which he became enmeshed is still unfolding. On March 11, prosecutors entered the central bank, the Bank of Japan, traditionally a dominion of the min-Private bankers have been detained, politicians," said Koichi Kato, sec-

Merrill to Press

Case in Singapore

Agence France-Presse

Lynch & Co. said Tuesday that

it would push for criminal

charges to be filed in Singapore

against a former employee after

Hong Kong prosecutors

dropped money-laundering

HONG KONG - Merrill

top executives have resigned at maous businessmen have committed

suicide to escape disgrace. The scandal is shattering Japan's old faith in public servants and sug-gesting to a growing number of Jap-anese cynics that their bureaucracy may be rotten to the core. With economic troubles dogging all of Asia, the Finance Ministry is the single institution most able to orchestrate a revival of the region, but it increasingly resembles a fortress under siege, attacked both at home and abroad for errant behavior and

Critics worry that the ministry may have lost its way at a moment when leaders in the United States and other industrial nations are de-manding that it take more steps to help prevent an Asian tailspin.

Economists say that by trying to tighten the country's belt even dur-ing hard times, the ministry risks throwing Japan into recession.

Japan's politicians, accustomed to staying on the sidelines in formulation of economic policy, are step-ping in to take the lead, further threatening the ministry and preventing its experts from fully concentrating on the task of nursing the sick economy. Particularly on the eve of a broad restructuring of the financial industry, the ministry appears dis-tracted by its scandals and by turf battles with politicians — battles that it may be beginning to lose.

istry, to seize a high-level official. of power from the bureaucrats to the stone walls.

jor financial institutions, and one Parliament member, another Fi-nance Ministry official and numer-thought to be the best and the brightthought to be the best and the bright-est in this society, handling all policies, were proved to be not as effective and competent as we had thought. Now it is time for us politi-

cians to make our own policy."
For now, the Finance Ministry has fended off a formal attempt by Sakigake, a small party in the governing coalition, to break it up into a handful of agencies. Until recently, the ministry was seen as the bedrock of Japanese prosperity, so few balked at the extent of its power roughly equivalent to a combination of the U.S. Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, Office of Manage-ment and Budget, Securities and Ex-change Commission and parts of the

Federal Reserve Board. Amid recent calls by politicians to curb its powers, the ministry has agreed to spin off a financial surveillance agency in June. Both the finance minister and the deputy finance minister were forced out of their positions this year as casualties of the widening assault on the min-

But while the ministry's power appears on the wane for now, its strength and expertise, which make it arguably the most important repository of power outside of Washington, continue to dwarf those of Japan's elected officials. Politicians have called for more spending, but attempts to alter the ministry's steadfast policy of fiscal austerity "There will be a very drastic shift have bounced off the ministry's

### Still, the attack on the ministry Samsung Electronics Profit Falls 25%

Bloomberg News Co., the world's largest memoryprofit dropped 25 percent last year

as global chip prices plunged.
The company earned 123 billion
won (\$84.2 million), down from 164 billion won in 1996, a Samsung executive said. The result was in line with analysts' expectations.

charges against him. Rising interest expenses also Hong Kong prosecutors withcurbed profit as a weakening curdrew the charges against Kevin James Wallace "due to unforerency made it more expensive to re-pay foreign currency debt. Analysts seen difficulties." The banker, say the company could easily have who had worked at Merrill lost money, like its rival LG Semicon Lynch International Bank Ltd. Co., if the government had not in Singapore, was at the center changed accounting rules in Decemof an investigation of an alleged \$30 million fraud case. ber to cushion the impact of foreignexchange losses on the bottom line.

Bloomberg News Sales in 1997 rose 17 percent SEOUL — Samsung Electronics from a year earlier to 18.5 trillion won thanks to a bumper year for the chip maker, said Tuesday that its net company's telecommunications equipment business, which accounted for a quarter of all sales.

Semiconductor sales were flat even as the company shipped more chips. Increased exports were offset by a slide in prices of its mainstay 16-megabit dynamic random-access memory chip, which provides the memory function for personal computers, calculators and other electronics products.

The average price of 16-megabit D-RAMs dropped below \$3 from about \$8 in 1996, wiping out profit

Samsung stock fell 3.8 percent to



Sakuya Fujiwara, a candidate for a deputy governor-ship of the Bank of Japan. The bank's governor said Tuesday no. further resignations were to be expected.

has been debilitating. Japan's weekly magazines are accusing it of everything from dishonesty to in-eptitude. And the public is learning that Finance Ministry officials do not always spend their time laboring in neckties over statistical charts but also have been known to cavort sometimes at the invitation of those they are supposed to regulate - at the raunchiest of sex clubs.

'They are losing control," Toru Nakakita, an economics professor at Toyo University, said of the ministry's bureaucrats. "They are demoralized. They are a group of very proud people, but they made an awful lot of fallacies. They've blundered so many times."

The ministry is accused not just of economic ineptitude but, perhaps more important in the public mind, of corruption and misbehavior. While lavish entertainment of government officials by corporate executives has long been commonplace in Japan, the public has been particularly angered by the revelation that banks entertained Finance Ministry officials at no-pan shabu-

Shabu-shabu is a kind of cooked taurant is the waitresses, who wear short skirts and no underwear: In

The idea of these officials discoming difficult for the ministry to the best course for the country."

## IMF Holds Aid As Indonesia Stalls Reforms

JAKARTA - A senior International Monetary Fund official indicated Tuesday that Indonesia was unlikely to receive a delayed \$3 billion loan, part of the agency's bailout, this month because of IMF concerns about Indonesia's progress in reforming its economy.

Hubert Neiss, director of the

Fund's Asia-Pacific department, said the second payment would not be made before April, after the IMF's executive board had reviewed Indonesia's progress.

Mr. Neiss, who heads a senior

with Indonesian officials Wednesday to discuss the first quarterly review of an economic program to which Jakarra agreed in return for a bailout of more than \$40 billion.

The IMF package requires Indonesia to carry out austerity mea-

IMF team, said he would start talks

sures, including eliminating price supports for fuel and basic food commodities and doing away with monopolistic practices.

The first \$3 billion tranche was

disbursed in December, and the second was to have been handed over Sunday.

The IMF and Indonesia have been at loggerheads over the delay in disbursement of the second tranche amid questions about Indonesia's commitment to reforms.

Indonesia said it would try to end misunderstandings with the IMF on the pace of change but refused to abandon a plan for a currency board to stabilize the rupiah.

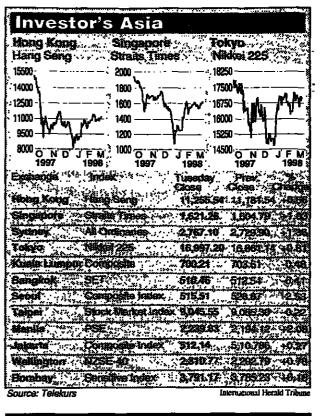
Jakarta is determined to reform the economy with or without the IMF, said Ginandjar Kartasasmita, coordinating minister for the economy.

"President Suharto is looking for the best way to overcome the economic crisis," he said. "Suharto says we have not found the best solution to overcome the crisis.

Meanwhile, the IMF's managing director, Michel Camdessus, said Indonesia's economic woes should be attributed to the government's meat, but the specialty of the res- failure to implement reforms, not to deficiencies in the IMF's plan for the country. Mr. Camdessus said in Japanese, "no-pan" refers to "no an interview with Time magazine panties." So "no-pan shabuthat the IMF plan had "not deshabu" has become a national joke, livered all its potential because it has a phrase on the tip of everyone's been either not implemented fully or tongue.

been either not implemented fully or was circumvented."

To renounce the IMF program, he cussing bank regulation in such a said, "would be to renounce an unsetting is so absurd that it is be-dertaking seen by the entire world as



#### Very briefly:

. Japan's industrial output in January rose 2.9 percent from the previous month, unchanged from preliminary figures, the International Trade and Industry Ministry said.

• South Korea's slowing economic growth and currency crisis caused 6 of the country's top 10 conglomerates to post losses last year because of slumping sales, foreign-exchange losses and high financing costs, the Korea Stock Exchange said.

 South Korea's real gross domestic product grew 5.5 percent last year, its lowest rate of growth since 1992, and the country's per-capita income contracted for the first time in 17 years, to \$9,511, down 9.8 percent from 1996, the central Bank of Korea

said. South Korea posted 7.1 percent GDP growth in 1996. • Mosel Vitelic Inc., one of the largest semiconductor makers in Taiwan, said its net profit last year fell 59.4 percent, to a five-year low of 1.64 billion Taiwan dollars (\$50.6 million), as falling chip prices cut into earnings.

• PT Telkom, the largest publicly traded company in Indonesia, said 1997 profit fell 23 percent, to 1.15 trillion rupiah (\$115.6 million), as the collapse of the rupiah triggered foreign-exchange losses.

 Pohang Iron and Steel Co. of South Korea appointed a former vice president, Yoo Sang Boo, as its chairman, replacing Kim Mahn Je, who was put at the helm of the company by the previous government.

• Ford Motor Co. said it would name Eiji Iwakuni, a former sales executive for Honda Motor Co., as president of its Japanese unit, Ford Motor Co. (Japan) Ltd., on April 1. • Hang Seng Bank Ltd.'s chief executive, Alexander Au Siu-

kee, resigned to join Standard Chartered PLC as an executive director, the banks said.

 Japan's cabinet approved a plan to inject a total of 1.42 trillion yen (\$11.1 billion) into 17 banks whose capital has crumbled under bad-loan write-offs, officials said. The amount comes in addition to a separate batch of disbursements totaling 395.6 billion yen approved for four other major commercial banks. AFP. Bloomberg, Reuters

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## **PROFITS:** Will Full-Year Results of American Companies Spring Trap on the Stock Market Bulls?

#### Continued from Page 13

curities, "Throughout the '90s

mists and market strategists, who look at the big economic forces in- said. stead of the prospects for individual 11 percent growth rate last year.

we've been spoiled; we've only seen cent clip last year — the fastest pace in Minneapolis. "I've talked to a

Undanmed, wan Street analysis so the question is Can the Asia." The financial crisis in Asia is companies produce solid gains in the Asia." The financial crisis in Asia is a the second half that will lead to, on eighth year of an economic cycle, a big factor, Ms. Latta said, but just average, a 10 percent profit gain for and extend the longest continuous one among many. the entire year. But many econoperiod of profit growth on record?

For instance, the unemployment rate in the United States is 4.6 per-

companies, are forecasting a more about the Asian turmoil, which was sizable slowdown, well below the seen in October as the prime threat to the great bull market of the 1990s The most optimistic among this group forecast 8 percent gains in many Wall Street analysts.

conjunction of the control of the co So the question is: Can blue-chip cognizant of the devastation in

emanating from a strong dollar and a widening trade deficit because of cheaper imports from Asia. Eastthe fourth quarter, partly because of

the strong dollar.

If the stock market's recent

"The only way you can support strength is any indication of investor these kinds of ratios is to see profit sentiment, many are dismissing the margins expand," Mr. Leuthold

#### ومحصد جائج ودور "Those who think this is a one-"We've got rising labor costs, three consecutive years with gains corporate profits; the less optimistic

could be sobering."
Undaunted, Wall Street analysts

see gains of under 5 percent.

double-digit growth. So this year in a decade. Blue-chip profits number of people in Asia and they much of a productivity gain this valuations into record territory. The jumped nearly three times as much. say that in the U.S. we're just not year."

cent, the lowest in 24 years, and as Many strategists remain worried corporations struggle to find skilled workers and retain their best employees, pressure mounts for higher wages and more training programs. That means corporate costs could rise and cut into earnings growth.

There are also currency problems

industrial average - after a record to see that."

stocks has reached 26, meaning that investors are paying about \$26 for every \$1 earned by those companies in the last year. Share prices generally man Kodak Co., for example, said reflect earnings prospects instead of that profits declined by 38 percent in past gains. But even on that basis, stocks are trading at 20 times future earnings, at or near a historic high.

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#### **HACKERS:** Paid to Intrude

#### Continued from Page 13

Volpe Brown Whelan & Co. products: fire walls and antivirus software.

Although computer viruses have been around for years, computer users to apdate their scanning software regularly.

Likewise, analysts predict

more businesses set up Web sites with different levels of access to employees, suppliers and customers. But the big growth in the security market is expected to

occur in two other areas: The first is virtual private networks. Today, businesses information from one office 10 another typically shell out mousends of dollars a month to lease private lines from phone companies because they believe the Internet is not safe enough. Virtual private network technology, projec-ted to grow into a \$4 billion business by 2000, scrambles data so it can be sent across the Internet without worry

about snooping.

It takes the fear out of puting your secrets on the internet, said David said David products. Dawson, the chief executive of V-One Corp. of German-town. Maryland, whose tance phone call.

technologies involves foiling inside-the-building intruders. Security experts long have fo-Analysts expect about half cused on erecting virtual the revenue in the market to fences, mosts and minefields come from two basic around their networks, but if somebody's on the inside, going from the file room to the president's office or the research division often is much newer strains have become easier. Now, firms such as more pernicious, forcing Axent and Trusted are pushing products that try to detect

inside the network. "We're telling people it's that the demand for fure walls not enough to put dead bolts will continue to increase as on the door," said Stephen Walker, Trusted's chief ex-ecutive. "You've got to install the motion detectors, too."

intruders and monitor activity

According to an informal survey of 520 security professionals conducted by the Computer Security Institute for the FBI's International Computer Crime Squad, 64 that want to send sensitive percent reported at least one unauthorized entry into their computer systems last year. Of those, 70 percent reported at least one network attack by their own employees.

Trusted and Axent have developed "intrusion detection" software that sounds an alarm when people venture into unauthorized areas. It's a market that's still getting off the ground, but both firms contend the proliferation of insider attacks will generate a new wave of demand for their

"In the old mainframe days, all you had to do was SmartGate technology is room, said John Becker, aimed at traveling workers Axent's chief executive.

Who want to connect to office you network machines,

Though everyone has access networks over the Internet inare of making a long-distored in sensitive material — secretaries, jamitors at night, The other set of growing people in the mailroom."

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## EDUCATION IS GETTING SHORTER AND MORE INTENSE IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

to learn more material in a shorter time period, highembarking on a process of man and Austrian universities are offering degrees on the Anglo-American model, and classes are increasingly taught in English.

999 Other Funds

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In autumn 1997, the University of Magdeburg's international department began offering Anglo-Americanstyle bachelor's and master's discussion and intense negodegrees. The bachelor's program is taught in English. I.B. (international baccalaurand the master's is about half English and half German.

offer an international program. The Ministry of Edu-school diploma entitling cation, which is funding the Germans to attend a uniprograms, hopes they will lead the way for the "internationalization" of higher education.

The newly founded inter-

esponding to public and Anglo-American de- studying, for example, hotel new law, according to Der in both Germany and Austria tablished as an alternative to among the students attending attend courses in Germany or will open this autumn.

Another sign of change in er-education administrators the world of German edu-schools - took at least five in Germany and Austria are cation is "combi-courses," which are proliferating at plexity of the approval pro- call of Central Europe's busireform. More and more Ger- universities. Students have a cess discouraged many ness community for courses choice between German and would-be school founders of study providing graduates English as their language of from even making the atinstruction.

These developments are nothing short of revolutiontion has traditionally resisted change. For example, three and a half decades of heated tiations notwithstanding, the eate) — recognized widely throughout the world - still Magdeburg is one of 13 has not been certified by institutions in Germany that most of Germany's state educational authorities as a high

versity in Germany. For generations, foreigners wishing to attend any kind of institution of higher learning in Germany have national University in Ger- had to pass a very demanding many will go one step fur- tests of German proficiency. ther. The entire university No exceptions were made, will be built around English even for students who were

requests for students grees, Located in Bruchsal, it management in English. Starting up and accrediting schools - even elementary tion? years. The delays and com- of resisting the compelling

> ary because German educa- by the authorities' willing- rate of unemployment now This involves partial waivers of official regulations.

The most fundamental income, should the country's omnibus law reforming the financing of education be Institut (languages and passed. The law was recently interpreting institute). approved by the Chancellor "In our and many Helmut Kohl-led federal cab- other areas, the Euroinet. It sets up measures to reward students and universities for performance.

In plain terms, the law rate — this could easily de-United States or Britain. Uni- this goal," Mr. Heuss adds. versities in those countries were indeed what inspired the alize the education systems

Spiegel magazine. What started the revolu-

"The market. After years with large amounts of practical knowledge, our coun-Today's internationaliza- try's educational establishtion wave has been triggered ment, spurred by the high ness to accept trial programs. prevailing, has thoroughly and completely seen the light," says Wolfgang Heuss, international education externationalization is yet to pert and head of the English department at Munich's Sprachen und Dolmetscher-

pean Union has also been a highly important change agent. One of the EU's main study turning out well-objectives is to promote the rounded students fully preobjectives is to promote the strives to move students free flow of persons and exthrough the universities faster pertise among its member al-level studies and careers," while teaching them more. states, and making sure that Short duration, high learning all of these states offer degrees of universal applicabscribe a good university in the ility is one key of achieving

To that end, the highly respected school, located just to the north of Lake Con-The fight to internationstance, has been a driving force in getting the I.B. es-

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the Abitur, Germany's unihas been led by the countries' private high schools. versity-track high school di-"As with our counterparts, ploma. Its latest and boldest move in this regard: The

our prosperity has always been dependent upon our providing what our 'customers' need and want. And this has long been courses of

curriculum for the high school students attending it. In 2000, joined by their the I.B. students will have a and Austria, A number of International Salem College. Some 66 million Deutsche been raised to build the fa-

many.

As the example of the Oberursel-based Frankfurt International School shows, the market's demand for the I.B. is strong. 'All of our students are on

"I.B college," creating a new

the I.B. track," says Adele Hodgson, spokesperson for the school. People are interpared to take on internationested in the program because says Hartmut Ferenschild, of "the cost of education spokesperson for Schule nowadays. In a number of countries, universities award holders of the I.B. advanced placement, thus cutting the time of attendance and hence

> the overall expenditure." The I.B. is also popular

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Austria's private schools. "An average of 25 percent

of our students choose to take this challenging two-year school has set up a separate program," says Marie Sam- adelphia College of Textiles mons, marketing manager at the American International School in Salzburg. Public schools are also

new home of their own: the polytechnics have been offering English-language classes for over a decade. The marks (\$36.13 million) have mainstay at many of these years ago, has created a wide schools is commercial and cility, making it the largest technical instruction; degrees project in the history of are often awarded in hotel management, sports marketing and international civil engineering. English is, of American and British unicourse, the lingua franca of the world's hotel, sports, civil tutions, in turn, offer Englishengineering and many other language bachelor's and massectors. The polytechnics ter's degree programs. have been adept at circum-

> non-German degrees. The highly respected polytechnic in Reutlingen offers an English-language executive master's program in glob-

al textiles marketing. Students

at partner universities in Israel (Shenkar College of Textile. Technology and Fashion) and the United States (Philand Science). Until recently, says Program Director Frank Stelzer, only PCTS's name was on the diplomas. Now Abitur-track counterparts, changing in both Germany Reutlingen also has the right

to issue the diplomas. The International Institute of Tourism and Management in Krems, Austria, founded 10 range of "combi" programs of its own. These involve enrolling in the institute's twoyear diploma program and then attending one of several versities. These partner insti-

> coupon, Page 3.

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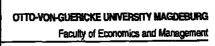
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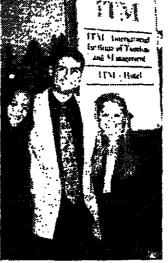
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# S PORTS



Leon Barmore, the Louisiana Tech women's coach, and assistant Kim Mulkey-Robertson encourage their team.

#### Crimson Run Ends

BASKETBALL Arkansas eliminated Harvard on Monday night to reach the round of 16 in the NCAA women's tournament. Harvard had become the first 16th seed to win an NCAA game when it beat injuryriddled Stanford on Saturday, but Arkansas beat the Crimson, 82-64.

Other teams to advance included the traditional powers Louisiana Tech, Tennessee, Connecticut and North Carolina as well as Duke, Notre Dame, Florida, Purdue, Illinois Rutgers, Alabama, Old Dominion, North Carolina State

The controversy over Alabama's last-second shot in a 75-74 victory over UCLA on Sunday carried over to Monday when the three officials were barred from working the rest of the tournament. Latoya Caudle scored the winning points after Alabama inbounded with just eight-tenths of a second left. (AP)

#### Switch for PSG Chairman

SOCCER Michael Denisot, the Paris Saint-Germain president, will swap jobs at the end of the season with Charles Bietry, head of Canal Plus, the TV station that took control of the ailing soccer club in 1991, France Info radio said Tuesday.

Both men are journalists and television personalities. Under Denisot, Paris Saint-Germain won the French title in 1994 and the European Cup Winners Cup in 1996 but has faltered this season. (Reuters)

#### Green Light for Nicklaus

GOLF Jack Nicklans received special exemptions from the U.S. Golf Association to play in the U.S. Open through 2000. When Nicklaus, 58, was not among those given exemptions in January it appeared his streak of playing in consecutive major championships would end at 145 after the Masters. (AP)

#### Zimbabwe Sets Target

CRICKET Murray Goodwin and Andy Flower added 277 runs in an unbroken stand Tuesday on the fourth day of the first test in Bulawavo. Zimbabwe ended its second innings at 302, setting Pakistan 368 to win. At the close Pakistan was 24 without loss. (Reuters)

## WORLD ROUNDUP High-Stakes Soccer: **Goalless and Soulless**

Champions Cup Contenders Play It Safe

By Rob Hughes International Herald Tribune

ANCHESTER — Franz Beckenbauer, who won everything in his time as a player and won it all again as team chief, told his spoiled stars at Bayern Munich last week: "If you were not soccer players, you would

be tramps sleeping under a bridge."
Tramps, eh? The recipients of that barb, three of them smarting at \$11,000 fines for criticizing club tactics as too

#### VANTAGE POINT

negative, really showed Kaiser Beckenbauer, who is the club's president, what they can do.

They played so negatively Saturday that, for the fifth consecutive game, the fabulous Munich failed to score. "That's it," said Giovanni Trapat-

toni, the team's coach, "we can say auf Wiedersehen to the championship." This negativity is everywhere. Look across Europe. Three of the Champions' League quarterfinalists are from the Bundesliga and a fourth, Real Madrid,

has a German coach. On Wednesday the second leg of those quarterfinals might as well be the first, for all four first-leg games stifled by unyielding caution - ended with the score tied.

The elite have become so focused on European games that they have also temporarily stopped winning in their domestic competitions. In the two weeks since the first legs of the European Cup quarterfinals, the eight contestants have played 15 national league games between them, and won two.

At Wembley Stadium last Saturday 50,787 mainly young supporters - soccer's future — saw an intriguing stalemate between 15-year-old boys. England, the founding nation of soccer, and Brazil, the samba specialists, are apparently schooling the next generation along German lines. Each adopted a rigid 3-5-2 formation, a back line of three central defenders marshaled by a sweep-er, a midfield five flanked by fullbacks, and two mobile, hard-running forwards.

The result was goalless, if not soul-

less. Brazil has been studying ways to Europeanize" for two decades, looking for a framework to protect skillfulplayers. England, coming down from the banal high-ball strategy, is simply looking for a method to mimic - and obviously the German way is more attainable than the old Latin artistry.

Imitation, of course, is the sincerest form of flattery. Germany is the producer of European champions and Borussia Dortmund is the champion club. And yet both Dortmund and Bayern Munich are trained by Italians. The core of Munich's internal arguments is a conflict between coach Trapattoni's defensive leanings and the players' instincts.

Mario Basler, Mehmet Scholl and Thomas Strunz, all German national squad players, were fined by Beckenbauer after Trapattoni had emotionally banged the table and declared before a live television audience: "I am sick and tired of taking the flak for them!"

Beckenbauer backed the trainer and said the team was willing to change all the players if necessary. Those who know Beckenbauer might suspect his ploy calculated to produce the best performance Wednesday in Dortmund.

But, Elber, the Brazilian forward who feeds off the bludgeoning physical force of Carsten Jancker, sounded genuinely disillusioned when he said: "I'm expected to play as a defensive striker. I learned my football in the streets; I play with simplicity and unpredictability. I never expected Bayern would buy me to

Dortmund, by contrast, often scores and concedes goals with abandon. Since the 0-0 draw in Munich's Olympic Stadium, the team has lost by a score of 4-2 and won, 3-2, in the Bundesliga. Meanwhile, Bayer Leverkusen, Germany's third representative in the Champions League, travels in comparative serenity to Madrid where it must scorer, commands respect, but if skill



AJAX TUMBLES — Dmitri Khlestov, left, a Spartak Moscow defender, battling for the ball with Dean Gorre of Ajax Amsterdam in their UEFA Cup quarterfinal in Moscow on Tuesday. Alexander Shirko scored in the 85th minute to give Spartak a 1-0 victory in the match and a 4-1 victory over the two legs of the fie.

score to knock out Real. The 1-1 draw in wins the day the Spanish, Brazilian, Leverkusen was the least Madrid's team merited but now, if Jupp Heynckes is to remain coach, Real must finish the job.

Meanwhile, the Spanish police must guard the expected 1,500 Leverkusen followers. Their liberty is threatened by a faction of the Ultra Surs, the notorious hard-line Madridistas who with shaven heads and Nazi salutes were detained by the Cologne police en route to the first-

The thugs cannot understand why it is offensive to shout "Heil Hitler" in German cities, or why they were detained and deported without seeing the game. Alas, some of them swear to "avenge" this before what is, or should be, a

soccer game on Wednesday.

Dutch, Argentines and Serbian-Croatian elements of Real Madrid will prevail.

In Kiev, there is the promise of a mighty contest. Dynamo Kiev confirmed in the 1-1 first leg in Turin that its skills are as good as any in Europe. Juventus may rue its missed chances in Turin where Alessandro Del Piero could and should have added two goals to the one strike by Filippo Inzaghi.

Juventus, like so many others, has spluttered in the league lately and will have to summon every ounce of its continental experience to resist Andrei Shevchenko and Sergei Rebrov, forwards who stayed in the Ukraine rather than be tempted abroad.

Dynamo's sense of mission is a national cause. Manchester United has mainly the compelling cause of history spurring it on against Monaco. United is another team that has taken its eyes off domestic competition while distracted by Europe. It has not been able to rescuematches with a flicker of genius, as the now retired Eric Cantona consistently did. It has lost Peter Schmeichel, its dominating goalkeeper, who tore a hamstring last weekend.

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No coach can anticipate such mishaps. Yet Alex Ferguson might regret his decision to play utterly negatively in Monaco rather than strike for victory The match ended, 0-0. Ferguson may have underestimated

Monaco's ability to score on the break in games away from home. He may go down as the first man to go bust by not gambling in Monte Carlo.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times of London.

## X Games Push Extreme Sports Into the Lucrative Mainstream

By Bill Donahue New York Times Service

In early January, Mike Nick was an unknown, just a stocky 21-year-old who could do crazy tricks, like aerial spins and firms, on short, fat planks resemble miniature snowboards.

Then he won the first-ever skiboarding contest at the winter X Games in Crested Butte, Colorado, and he was mobbed by reporters. A dozen ringed him slopeside, and the announcer for ESPN — which produces the X Games and broadcasts the alternative-sports Olympics in North America on its two cable television channels — informed a million-plus viewers that Nick, a junior at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh, was now "the sensation of rotation.

You could almost hear the cash registers going ka-ching. Skiboarding, a sport that didn't even exist until 1995,

had suddenly become legitimate. Frontside Films, in Santa Monica, California, has secured financing to produce "Skiboarding: The Movie." A six-stop professional skiboarding tour has been organized for next year, and Nick's sponsor, Line Skiboards, instantly doubled its production staff.

"I was psyched," said Jason Levinthal, the company's 25-year-old founder who built one of the first protoskiboards in his parents' garage. knew from the get-go that I had to get in the X Games. If you don't get on there, you're nowhere.

Indeed. While high-risk, attitudeladen sports like skateboarding, bicycle stunt riding and street lugeing may have once been about having fun and breaking free of the confining rules of traditional sports, they are now increasingly about money.

Mini-industries sprout up around each nascent sport the moment it's born, and the manufacturers, tour promoters and impresarios of Web sites all desperately need ESPN.

The summer and winter X Games, begun in 1995 and 1997, are by far the best-known alternative-sports festivals. And because the people tuning in to watch sports from ice climbing to bare-foot water-ski jumping are, quite often, young men willing to risk their own

necks, ESPN holds the power to make a AT&T, Old Spice deodorant and Ricoh sport chic.

Consider snowmobiling. When snowmobiling made its debut at this year's winter X, Men's Journal magazine announced the sport had gone mhisticated

'Forget the old stereotype of dirtyfingered, chain-smoking rural gear-heads," the magazine rhapsodized. It seemed quite possible that top snow-mobilers would soon be negotiating million-dollar endorsement contracts. It also says something about how far these sports have strayed, or progressed,

depending on your viewpoint, that an athlete like Shaun White, America's foremost 11-year-old snowboarder, has his own publicist. The genre of extreme sports takes its cues from early 1980s California skate punk culture, which proved that you

could still be a gnarly athlete even if you had green hair and a spiky dog-collarstyle bracelet. If there is a progenitor of extreme, it is

Jay Adams, a skate god who had a shaved head and a tattoo that read 'Team Pain.

Adams said in a magazine article that he smoked marijuana voraciously, reveled in fistfighting and hopped fences to ride his skateboard in empty swimming pools. He rose to prominence at roughly the same time as MTV, and it was inevitable that the rebel spirit he exemplified would be co-opted.

It happened finally in 1993, when

Ron Semiao, the program director for ESPN's hipper offshoot, ESPN2, found scores of specialty magazines catering to everyone from health-conscious rock climbers to corn-dog-eating skate rats. Semiao bought every one and found that

copiers were all using extreme sports images to advertise to twentysomething consumers.

If he could unify the magazines' "from the top myriad subcultures he thought he would strike gold. So he envisioned the X Games and

began choosing sports carefully.

Semiao, who is now besieged with calls from marketers of fledgling sports like all-terrain boarding (think skateboarding on dirt), said he favors sports that "have a whole culture attached to them, a specific attitude and a group of people who live and die for that

He chose skiboarding, he said, because its 20,000 or so American practitioners are what might be called "Iran-Iraq" rivals of snowboarders.

It didn't hurt, he added, that a major ski manufacturer, Salomon, had already ensured that skiboarding was more than a fad by introducing its own board. But it was ESPN's treatment that

made the sport sing to viewers. The network's coverage in January was wonderful eye candy, a spectacle replete with splashy graphics, lightningquick interviews and even stage direc-tion: ESPN's producers had Mike Nick

make his first-ever attempt at a 1440, a quadruple aerial spin, on his last run. The announcer crowed, "Expect the spectacular!" Nick whirled, and

Even more than the Olympics, the X Games are ultimately about theatrics and bathos. And in the spirit of the best television dramas, they deliver poignant

The X moment, as it might be called, is soul stirring yet somehow subversive. At this winter's games, for instance, we watched Nick triumphantly high-fiving the public.

In previous games, viewers saw slow-motion replays of sky surfers spinning (on snowboards) in a vast, beantiful sky and skateboarders thumpin their boards axelike on a ramp as the fading skate legend Tony Hawk twisted through what the announcers deemed the greatest run of his life."

It's all enough to disgust skeptics like Kevin Thatcher. Thatcher is the publisher of Thrasher, a San Franciscobased skateboard magazine founded in 1981, and a friend of Jay Adams (who has now retreated to Hawaii, where he

repairs surfboards for a living). "I was down on the ground, hurt, when I first saw Jay," Thatcher recalled nostalgically. "And he just skated by me like I was an obstacle. I respect him

Thatcher was invited to oversee the skateboarding contests at the first X Games, but declined.

"TV flattens skateboarding into one big ad," he said. "You can't truly capture it unless you take the TV cameras away, close off a street, and just let the kids go at it." Semaio dismisses such naysayers.

'A lot of these insider magazines: ' he said, "feel a moral obligation to trash the X Games because ESPN is a large corporation. But when I see more kids buying skateboards, and more skaters doing ads for Pepsi and AT&T, I think, that's a good thing for the skateboard industry. There's nothing wrong with

ESPN, said its spokesman Josh Krulewitz, "will continue to promote the X Games brand vigorously.

## **Boston Steals a Goal** In Victory Over Tampa

The Associated Press

Both teams saw what happened. So did the fans and the television broadcasters. But the referee, Dennis LaRue, did not see that the Boston Bruins' defenseman Darren Van Impe was in the

#### NHL ROUNDUP

goal crease when his teammate Dmitri Khristich fired the puck into the net from five feet out, and LaRue let the goal stand.

The rules say that if a player from the attacking team is in the crease - with the puck or without - a goal should be disallowed.

Not long afterward, Khristich set up Steve Heinze whose overtime goal lifted the Bruins to a 4-3 victory over the Tampa Bay Lightning.

. After the game Monday, the Lightning's coach, Jacques Demers, said of Khristich's goal: "It's just not a goal. It's not sour grapes. I just saw the replay and even the Bruins' announcers said they got a break."

Tampa Bay, with the worst record in the league, was protecting a 3-2 lead in Boston when Khristich shot about five feet from the goal.

Van Impe, who had been in the crease, jumped and landed outside the crease after the puck had gone in for

plays showed that Van Impe jumped after the puck entered the crease.

The red light never went on, but LaRue allowed the score without using video re-

play.
'Sure he was,' said Mike Fitzpatrick, the Tampa Bay goalie, when asked if Van Impe was in the crease. Fitzpatrick followed an official into the neutral zone to protest. "Our club doesn't get the break because we're clearly out of the playoffs and others are fighting for their lives.

The Bruins are in the playoff race, tied for fifth in the Eastern Conference with Washington.

"We got away with it," said the Bruins' coach, Pat Burns. "We might get arrested on the way out for stealing.

Capitals 2, Coyotes 1 In Washington, the Capitals stifled seven of eight power plays and got 24 saves from Olaf Kolzig. The Capitals have successfully killed 34 of their last 37 penalties, and their 89 percent success rate

leads the league. Adam Oates and Peter Bondra each had a goal and an assist for Washington, which has rebounded from a six-game losing streak to win four of its last five.

Rangers 5, Senators 4 The to five games, all without Khristich's 25th goal. Re- Rangers' leading goal scorer. their captain, Eric Lindros.



The Bruins' goalkeeper, Rob Tallas, deflecting a shot

Pat LaFontaine, idled for most of last season after a concussion, left the game after a collision with teammate Mike Keane. LaFontaine was taken to a New York hospital for observation, then released after passing neurological tests. Wayne Gretzky, Alexei

Kovalev and Niklas Sundstrom each had four-point games for the Rangers. Flyers 4, Maple Leafs 1 ID Philadelphia, Colin Forbes scored twice and Ron Hextall narrowly missed his 24th career shutout as the Flyers extended their unbeaten string Mike Sillinger had a goal and an assist, and Chris Gratton also scored for the Flyers, who snapped Toronto's three-game winning streak.

team has 61 points. Flames 3, Cana

by the Lightning's Mikael Renberg early in the game.

Sharks 2, Kings 1 Tony Granato and Marcus Ragnarsson lifted the Sharks into a tie with the Chicago Blackhawks for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference with a home victory over Los Angeles. Each

just about every word. "It was like somebody telling a story around a campfire," John Franco, an-

Andy Moog held his team in the game long enough for Montreal to earn the tie, which extended the Canadiens' unbeaten streak to five games, all of them played at home.

## Mets' Pitchers Get a Koufax Tutorial

By Jason Diamos New York Tunes Service

PORT ST. LUCIE, Florida - Socrates could not have asked for a more receptive audience than the one that turned out for the 62-year-old lefthander from Brooklyn who paid the

New York Mets a visit. During an impromptu midday clubhouse chat that lasted nearly an hour Monday, Sandy Koufax imparted some of the philosophy that made him the most dominant pitcher of his time: four times the National League leader in strikeouts and the winner of 97 games between 1963 and 1966.

Most of the Mets' pitching staff and even a couple of coaches - sat wide-eyed in a semicircle, hanging on

other left-hander from Brooklyn, said. In many respects, it was a little closer to a Zen master versing his students in the discipline of pitching.
"I've never seen anything like it be-

fore," Franco said. "A Hall of Famer comes in the back, sits on a stool to talk about his philosophy and says: 'Give me some feedback. Tell me what you want

to know and we'll go from there." Nobody here could remember any other visitor being treated with quite the

same reverence. Here was a group of major league pitchers, some of them millionaires many times over, truly captivated by their guest speaker.

But then again, there was nobody quite like Koufax, who reached the majors with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1955 as a bonus baby with trouble throwing strikes and retired from the Los Angeles Dodgers after the 1966 season as the preeminent pitcher in the game.

Still a very private man, Koufax re-spectfully declined to speak with reporters afterward, saying only that he had traveled from his home in Vero Beach, Florida, as a favor to Franco, who, like Koufax, is a graduate of Brooklyn's Lafayette High School. Franco first met Koufax in the Dodger farm system nearly 17 years ago.

After his talk, Koufax, dressed in blue jeans and a peach polo shirt, went to the bullpen with Franco, Al Leiter and Brian Bohanon to work off a mound.

The visit was set up by Dave Wallace, the new senior adviser to general manager Steve Phillips. Wallace spent the last 17 years in the Dodgers' organi-

zation and is a close friend of Koufax's.

Even Bob Apodaca, the pitching coach, was asking questions. "He's a teacher," Apodaca said.

The mere presence of Koufax had players and coaches flocking for autographs or pictures. And when Koufax spoke, they listened. "I just hope they took away something," Wallace said. How could they not? "If you're a pitcher, it should be a

privilege and an honor to listen to Sandy Koufax," Franco said. "How often does someone of that stature come in and talk to you about pitching? If someone didn't take something away from it, they missed a lot." Some Mets, like Leiter, were ittrigued by how Koufax emphasized the

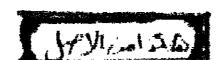
importance of pitching outside. Others, like Paul Wilson, were taken with Koufax's encouraging them to know their abilities and just be themselves. Many were surprised that he answered a question from Apodaca by talking about overcoming his own fear of failure.

And all spoke glowingly about what they had just heard.
"It was something I never expected in my lifetime, getting a chance to meet Sandy Koufax," said Bill Pulsipher. 2 24-year-old left-hander, "It kind of

blows you away."

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CRUTIMENT



**SPORTS** 



## The Lakers' Derek Fisher, left, and the Sonics' Gary Payton awaiting the call after their midcourt scramble.

## Sonics Sink Lakers; Jazz Trap Wolves

The youthful Los Angeles Lakers night be the future of the Western Conference. The present, however, belongs to a veteran team, the Seattle SuperSonics.

Gary Payton scored 12 of his 27 points in the final quarter as the Sonics heat the Lakers, 101-89, Monday Meaning for the ball with this season.

"We've played three tough games,
"We've played three tough games,
"We've played three tough games, night. Seattle is 3-0 against the Lakers

We've played three tongs of the Sound with the We've played three tongs of the Sound of the Soun said Vin Baker, the confortable in close games "But we're comfortable in close games we think our veteran leadership Monaco (ms. will see us though

will see us though.

Baker and Detief Schrempf each scored 21 points for Seattle, which squandered a 21-point lead before pulling squancercu a 21 yours minutes. Shaquille O'Neal scored 25 points for

the Lakers. But All-Star Kobe Bryant. who entered the game with a 16-point average, was held scoreless and took only one shot in 13 minutes.

The Sonics improved their NBA-best

SCOREBOARD

EXHIBITION SASEBALL

New York Yorkees 6, Boston 4
Debroif (spith-squad) 6 Chevelor

Les Angeles 5. St. Looks 0

BASEBALL

**NBA STANDINGS** 

L Pci 21 <u>682</u> 29 <u>547</u>

Jazz 102, Timberwolves 96 Visiting Utah won its 11th straight, Karl Malone

Stockton added 22, and they connected

Pistons 103, Heat 90 Grant Hill

Brian Williams added 17 points for the Pistons, who won for only the third

lotte ended Denver's season-best, twogame winning streak.

Dell Curry added 18 points and Glen Nuggets' bid for their first three-game

winning streak since December 1996. Johnny Newman scored 17 points for the Nuggets (7-59), who fell to 1-32 on

the road. Spure 96, Bucks 85 Tim Duncan had 25 points and 17 rebounds as San Antonio beat slumping Milwaukee. David Robinson added 21 points for the Spurs,

while Vinny Del Negro had 15. Rookie Jerald Honeycutt scored a career-high 16 points for injury-plagued Milwankee, which has lost six straight and nine of its last 10.

Bulls 88, Nots 72 In Chicago, Toni Kukoc scored 14 of his 21 points in the decisive third quarter, and the Bulls went on to win despite a poor performance by Michael Jordan, who scored 17 points, 11 fewer than his NBA-leading average.

He also missed an uncontested dunk, had another attempted dunk blocked by David Vaughn, committed four turnovers and was 6-for-15 from the

## 'Valpo' Fetes Its Hometown Heroes

#### Team's Upset Victories in NCAA Put Indiana Town on the Map

By Joe Drape New York Times Service

ALPARAISO, Indiana — For two hours Merel Nelson waited in the cold for the bus carrying the town's new heroes to roll down Union Street.

He was not alone. More than 2.000 people gathered here Monday to celebrate where they lived.

Shivering, Nelson clutched a cord and got ready to salute Valparaiso's basketball team with a cannon shot from Crusader II. Like the team it was meant to honor. Crusader II is deceptively small - about a foot long (30 centimeters) and six

inches high. But Nelson showed what happens when you underestimate the power of small things. The keeper of the cannon and the Valparaiso athletic department's equipment manager, he pulled a cord, and the cannon fired an earsplitting shot, welcoming home the team that had upset Florida State, 83-77, in overtime Sunday to reach the final 16 of the NCAA tournament.

The crowd that filled Union Street swallowed the bus that was carrying the team as it idled behind a police escort. Cameras from the television networks followed them and the cheer of "Let's go, Vaipo" drowned out the sound of shoes crunching in frozen snow.

For one wild afternoon, this town in northwest Indiana was getting national attention.

"No one will ever ask us again, 'What's Valpo? Is it in Kentucky?'' said Manisa Phophairat, a junior from Chicago, who, like all of the 3,500 students here, was happy about returning Monday from the university's spring

"It's about being known," she said. 'It's about getting us on the map.' Even professors couldn't find fault with an institution of higher learning coming to a halt because its basketball team had won two games in the National Collegiate Athletic Association tourna-

The university's president, Alan Harre, waited alongside the students as rock music blared in the background while the obligatory shirtless fraternity members, each with a gold letter painted on his chest to spell out V-A-L-P-O -

raced up and down the street. No, Mr. Harre said, classes were not officially canceled, but then he offered a sly smile and said, "Maybe there aren't a lot of classes scheduled at this time." A professor of geography

got closer to the truth. Standing in the middle of some colleagues, Paul Sando said: "This is Indiana. Basketball is our life."

Two retirees, John Condon and Curt Westerhausen, thought enough of Valparaiso's players to witness the celebration. Neither are alumni or even avid basketball fans, but each said they were impressed with the team's upset victories over Mississippi and Florida State in Oklahoma City.

"Not bad for a bunch of small-town kids, huh?" asked Condon, 68. "Have you seen the movie 'Hoosiers'? This team has that kind of heart and char-

The comparison to the celluloid In-diana high school team has dominated

headlines and broadcasts. Even the Valparaiso coach. Homer Drew, has quoted from the movie to his team behind closed locker room doors,

as well as in front of reporters. The notion of a small school from the sticks beating a bigger, city slicker school is ingrained in Indiana basketball

In 1954, tiny Milan High School, with about 100 students, beat the urban Muncie Central High for the state cham-

pionship when Bobby Plump hit a shot

at the buzzer

Those who know Plump, like the Indiana Pacers' assistant coach Dick Harter, swear that the insurance salesman still keeps copies of the newspaper memorializing that moment in the trunk

This mutt of a team already has reams of clips to someday show off to doubters.

Among its five seniors are a point guard, Jamie Sykes, who already is late reporting for spring training to the Arizona Diamondbacks; a set of identical twins, Bill and Bob Jenkins; a 7-foot (2.1-meter) Lithuanian center, Antanas Vilcinskas, and the coach's son, Bryce

But for the students here, what makes their team's tournament run so special is that they know each and every one of the

players they are cheering.

The campus is so small that you see these guys everywhere," said Alida Past, a freshman from Lafayette, Indiana, "You talk to them at the student union. They're just people like us."

That sense of community was on display as the players made their way to an old gymnasium in the university's Athletic and Recreation Center.

One after another, the players thanked the well-wishers and promised them that the clock had yet to strike midnight for this Cinderella team.

But Jim Harrick Jr., the assistant coach whose father is the head coach at Rhode Island, Valparaiso's opponent on Friday in St. Louis, ignited the loudest

"In 1995, after my father won the national championship with UCLA, I rode the bus back with the team to Pauley Pavilion." he said.

"No one was waiting there," Harrick told the crowd. "California doesn't have anything on the Midwest. No one

With the rhythmic chant of "Final Four, Final Four," those on hand told him he was right.

Ancheim 4, Seattle 3 San Francisco 8, Chicago Cobs 5

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25 12 20 30— 87 24 22 28 34—169 mgn 4-10 9-10 17, Goldwire 6-12 0-2

—Denver 35 (Jackson 8), Charlett

D: Newmon 4-109-1017, Goldwire 6-120-2 15; C: Geiger 5-6 8-8 18, Rice 4-9 9-10 17.

MONDAY RESULTS

scored 29 points for the Jazz, John

NBA ROUNDUP

on a couple of crucial pick-and-roll plays in the closing minutes.

scored 26 points as Detroit snapped an eight-game losing streak against

time in their last 14 road games. Hornets 109, Nuggets 87 Matt Geiger had 18 points and 14 rebounds as Char-

Rice had 17 as the Hornets won for the 11th time in 12 games and ended the

Cosseil 4). Chicago 26 (Kukoc, Rodman 5).

LA Laters 19 22 25 23—89
Sacille 23 37 11 39—181
LA: Laters: O'Neal 10-13 5-7 25, Jones 713-4-7 20: 5: Payton 9-18 6-7 27. Butker 7-10 7-

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Women's NCAA 22 25 27 29—183 20 22 24 24—99 MIDWEST REGIONAL Mismai 20 22 24 24 - ve D: Hill 11-16 4-7 26, B.Williams 6-9 5-6 17; M: Mourning 11-19 4-6 26, Majerle 5-7 0-0 13. Hardaway 5-13 2-2 13. Rebounds — Defroit 47 (B.Williams 10), Mismai 47 (Mourning 8). Assists — Defroit 14 (Hill, Humter 3), Mismai 24 SECOND ROUND Profeso 77, Colorado State 63 MIDIAST REGIONAL

Rutgers 62, lowe State 61 Histois 69, UC Sarda Barbara 65

Florida 89, Virginia Tech 57 Duka 69, Louisville 53 Warm 27 17 24 24-94 Mirmesota 27 11 24 24-94 U: Malone 11-22 7-11 29, Stockton 7-11 8-10 22 Mr. Marbury 11-28 3-4 26, Garnett 8-14 3-4 19, Rebonds-Uhoh 53 (Foster 10), Minnesota 53 (Garnett 16). Assists—Utoh 29 NIT SECOND ROUND
Georgia Tech 80: Georgetown 79: OT Minnesote 53 (Garnett 16). Assists—Utab 29 (Malone, Hormacek, Stockdon 8), Minnesote 24 (Garnett Peeler 6).
Milwaystee 22 20 17 26—85 Sep Antenio 18 22 20 26—96 Mr. Honeycuft 5-13 4-5 16, Johnson 7-13 4-4 15, Perry 6-15 2-2 12; S.a. Duncan 12-18 1-2 25, Robinson 9-14 3-5 27.
Rebounds—Milwaystee 41 (Johnson 12), Son Antenio

ICE HOCKEY NHL STANDINGS



Phoenix 9 9 1—1
Washington 7 8—2
First Period: W-Oates 14 (Bondin,
Tikkmen) (pp). Second Period: W-Bondin
42 (Oates) Third Period: Phoenix, Gartner 11
(Nummhen, Tocchell (pp). Shris an god:
Phoenix 9-7-9—25. W-6-11-7—24. Goalles: Phoenix 9-7-9-20. No. 10 Phoenix, Walte. W-Kelzig.
Tampa Bay 8 2 1 9-3 2 0 1 1-4

27 23 15 69 163 151
26 32 7 59 160 177
N.Y. Rungeis 1 4 8-5
RENE CONFERENCE
SITTAL DIVISION
W L T Pts GF GA Second Period: O-Arvedson 5 (Prospat) 2, New York, Kovalev 12 (Gretzky, Somselsson)
39 16 10 89 197 132 (Gretzky, Sundstrom) 4, New York, Leetch 17
35 19 13 83 198 158 (Sundstrom, Kovalev 13 (Gretzky, Sundstrom) 4, New York, Leetch 17
36 24 8 80 202 161
26 29 12 64 181 189
27 30 11 61 162 162 162 Third Period: O-Phillips 4 (Krovchuk, Prospat) (pp). 8 to Wyork, Somselson 2 (Gretzky, Sundstrom)
M. L T Pts GF GA Yoshin, Kovalev 10, 5 New York, Somselson 2 (Gretzky, Sundstrom)
M. L T Pts GF GA Yoshin (pp). 5 New York, Sundstrom 16 (Gretzky, Kovalev) 4, New York, Sundstrom 17 (Prospat) 17 (Prospat) (pp). 8 to Vortech 17 (Prospat) 17 (Prospat) 17 (Prospat) 17 (Prospat) 18 (Prospat) 17 (Prospat) 18 (Pros

Particle S.J., Regnarsson 5 (Marison, Nicholis) Ipp). Third Period: None. Storts on gook L.A. 9-6-7-22 S.J. 8-14-5-27. Godies: L.A. Stort.

CRICKET ZUMBABWE YS. PAKUSTAN FIRST TEST, FOURTH DAY TUERDAY IN BULAWAYO, ZIMBABWI

hwe 321 and 302-4 declared

#### TENNIS WITA PANKINGS

 Martina Hingle, Switzerland, 4,115 points
 Lindsay Davenport, U.S., 4,084 4. Monico Seles, U.S., 2,988 5. Amanda Coetzer, South Africa, 2.853

6. Mary Pierce, France 2,690 7. Iva Majoli, Creatia, 2,662 8. Arantxa Sanchez Vicario. Sp 9. Conchita Martinez, Spain, 2,495 y, Concrete Australia 2,445
10. Irina Spiriea, Romania, 2,846
11. Venus Wittiams, U.S., 1,973
12. Nathalie Tauziot, France, 1,946
13. Sandrine Testud, France, 1,868 4. Anke Huber, Germany, 1,847

#### SOCCER

SPANISH FIRST DIVISION rid 51: Cella Vipa 48: Real Sociedad. Real Belis, 47; Athletic Bilboo 47; Atlefico Ma Zarugoza 39; Oviedo 37: Deportivo Coruna. Valiodolid 36; Merida 34; Racing Santander

WIFA CEP QUARTERFRAL, RETURN LEG. Sportek Moscow 1, Ajox Amsterdom D

#### TRANSITIONS

PASERALL AMERICAN LEAGUE sen to Rochester, IL and RHP Chris Fussell and OF Wady Almante to Bowle, EL Des-ignated OF Militch Simons, OF Miguel Mejla,

THERE'S JUST ONE THING TO DO. WELL WALL OUR-

SELVES TO AUSTRALIA.

aoston—Sent INF Arquimedez Pozo outright to Provisicket. II...
CHICAGO—Announced that RHP Roger
McDowell refired and will serve as a pitching
cooch at teams extended spring training.
CLEVELAND—Reported that C Sandy Alomar will be statellined for 2 weeks because at
strained left grain. Optioned 18 Richle Sesson
and OF Brace Aven to Bultiato. IL. and 38
Russell Bramyon and RHP Jason Rokers to
Alvon, EL.

Akron, EL.

DETROIT—Optioned RHP Dean Crow, RHP Matt Draws, L.HP John Rosengren, C Paul Bako, INF Richard Almanzar and INF Gabe Alyssez to Toledo, IL. Optioned RHP Fran-

Cisco Cordero to Jacksonville, SL.
Kansas—Optioned RHP Bort Evans and
RHP Roland DeLaMaza to Omaha, PCL, and
OF Mark Quinn and INF Cartos Febres to OF Mark Quinn and INF Cartos Feores to Wichito, TL.

MINNESOTA—Assigned LHP Chris Cumbertend, RHP Dan Nautly, LHP Dan Serginal, OF Brian Buchanan, OF Chris Latham and OF Marc Lewis to Sall Lake, PCL: HP Dan Perkins, LHP Mark Redman and C A.J. Piezynskii to New Britoin, EL; INF Clearlus Dandison to Fort Mwers, FSI.

Davidson to Fort Myers, FSL. NEWYORK—INF List Solo is expected to be sidelined for four weeks with a stress frocture in his left hand, QAKLAND—Optioned INF Jorge Velondia WASHINGTON—Recoiled D David Harlock Designation and Control of the Company of the Company of the Control of the Control

to Edmanton, PCL.
SEATTLE—Optioned OF Charles Gipson
and RHP Makato Suzuki to Tacoma, PCL.

TAMPA BAY. Placed LHP Youghn Eshel-man on 60-day disabled list. NATIONAL LEAGUE

DENVER—Activated G Babby Jockson from njured list. Placed G Harold Elias on injured MIAMI\_Artherise! F Terry Mills from this red

OL Matt Elliatt to 2-year contracts.

DALLAS—Re-signed DE Broderick Thor to 1-year contro

GREEN BAY-In first stock sule since 1950 PHILADELPHIA—Signed DE Hugh Douglo to 6-year contract. BOCKEY

MATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

MHL—Suspended Dollos Stors D Croig
Ludwig for of least 1 game, pending hearing,
for elbowing Anchelm Ducks RW Teenu
Selome on March 13.

COLORADO—Recoiled G David Aebischer
from Wheeling, ECHL.
DALLS—Recoiled E Loran Botteriil, F.Kre-

DALLAS—Receiled F Josen Bofferill, F Key-in Sowyer, F Jamie Wright, D Petr Buzek and D Sergey Gusev from Michigan, 1HL. FLORIDA—Recalled LW Peter Worrell from

New Hoven, AHL, Sent D John Jakopin to New Haven.

MEW LESETY—Recalled D Kevin Dean, D Brott Bornboardr and C Brendan Morrison from Albany, AHL PHILADELPHIA—Recoiled G NeiffLittle and

the 2002-03 season. FRESHO STATE— C Avondre Jones and re-

cruit Kenny Brutiner were arrested Tuesday for Investigation of assault with a deadly weapon and grand theft. Howard—Fired Mike McLeese, men's basketball coach.
IDANO STATE—Named Doug Oliver mens baskethall cooch. LSV—Suspended DB Clarence LeBlanc in-

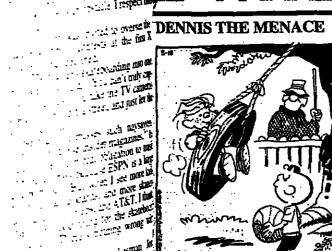
ATLANTA-Signed WR Keith Crowford and Jones, men's basketball coach.

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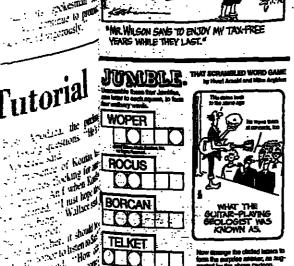
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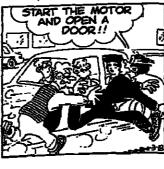








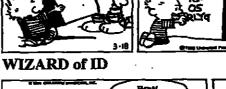








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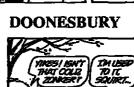
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By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — I have just messy movie kiss, "Good made the annual late- Will Hunting" has an absolute winter movie rounds. Here beauty involving two collegeare my five nominations for age people eating hamburgers.

Academy Awards for best You wouldn't think that kissmoments in films seen during

"As Good as It Gets." Later you were in college. Nicholson turns out to be just another old softie when it comes to dogs, but the satirical than the far superior "Air Force bite of his comment on New One," was the special-effects York as he sends the mutt down flick nominated for a best-picthe chute is worth the price of ture Academy Award. It lacks a the ticket. This is New York, he scene comparable to the splentells the dog before launching it did moment in "Air Force toward the garbage. "If you can One" when President Harrison make it here, you can make it Ford shoves Mister Bad Guy

laying a Bible down in front ing, "Get off my airplane." of a huge earth-moving machine and daring a surly, church-hating driver to run over it. The movie is "The Apostle." This scene pitting Bible vs. bulldozer is an absolute wow. So is the whole search of a plot. It piles immovie. Among movies on my plausibility on absurdity so tour, it was one of only two relentlessly that we despair of that seemed to be about real

when the plain, desperate, out-of-work guys do their strip-tease, but at the critical moment — thank God! you see only the view from the rear. It is funny and sad at the same time, and you leave with a smile, not feeling cheap, as you feel reading the newspapers nowadays.

'Good Will Hunting' has as good a kissing scene as you're apt to see in a movie calls for kissers to chew ic" moistly on each other. What

is the point of all this juicy kissing anyhow?

This being the era of the ing a woman with a mouth full of hamburger would be the I. People hating Jack Nich-height of amatory fun, would olson pushing a dog down the you? When these kids do it garbage-disposal chute of a you find yourself wondering New York apartment house in why you never tried it when

5. Yes, I saw "Titanic." It made me wonder why it, rather out through the plane's back 2. Preacher Robert Duvall door and into empty space say-

I didn't expect "Titanic" to be another "Gunga Din." Still, I didn't expect a threehour doze. It's a spectacle in ever coming upon a great people in a real world. scene. Then, quite near the 3. The other was "The Full end, when we are ten or elscene. Then, quite near the Monty." In that, you look for- even hours into it, comes a ward to a final great scene moment when the hard-bitten treasure hunters on the salvage ship begin to weep.

They have been listening to an elderly female survivor tell them the story we have just seen. Tears begin to dampen their cynical cheeks. Though they have worked for years on the Titanic job, they have never realized until now how tragic, yet romantic, the sinking was, and they weep, those phonies. Yet it is a fine scene nowadays when the style in its way: It means "Titan-

is almost over. New York Times Service

WHO'S WHO? - Philippe Candeloro, the French figure skater,

unveiling his doppelgänger, front, at the Grevin wax museum in Paris.

# Farewell to Dr. Spock, the Parents' Pacifier

By Elizabeth Kastor Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — She is not sure exactly why she decided to go into the closet. Somehow, in the cold dark of that winter night in pulsating "soft spot" on the 1960, it seemed like a good idea. crown of the baby's head. Her husband was asleep. The apartment's living room felt immensely far away, the closet so close to the warm bed. At least there she could imagine she would soon be allowed to slide back between the sheets is really meningitis. The susand into the bliss of sleep.

So she sat down in the closet, cradling her wailing first baby, and riffled furiously through "Dr. riffled furiously through "Dr. Spock's Baby and Child Care," seeking the miraculous piece of advice that would make a sixweek-old baby stop crying.

How long I cried my mother no longer remembers, nor does she know what she did to get me to he opened his book with the stop. But whether or not Dr. Spock was of any practical assistance, there he was in the middle of the night, keeping my mom company, assuring her in his soothing way that everything would be fine.

. Benjamin Spock died on Sunday at age 94. His classic "Baby and Child Care" is now 51 years old; the seventh edition is due in May. In addition to the nostalgia she

feels for that long-ago apartment with its graciously large closet, my mother remembers Dr. Spock with a particularly personal affection. the sort of warmth one usually associates with a well-liked if not intimately known neighbor. And even though my shelf of child-rearing books is heavy with the popular titles of the '90s and rather light on Dr. Spock, I feel the same.

My generation, Spock babies all to one degree or another, may have turned to T. Berry Brazelton or Penelope Leach. We know "What to Expect When We're Expecting" and "How to Talk So Your Kids Will Listen." Dr. Spock is no longer the one sacred text, and now sounds a little old-fashioned in eration. He was the doctor who told spots. But he is still there in the 'moms to coddle their kids, to give children in the '60s, paged through and it's an improvement I value middle of the night, describing the them whatever they wanted! The Dr. Spock over and over. Roiphe very much."

"tiny, delicate blisters" of chickenpox, explaining the meaning of thumb-suckreassuring us that we will not lobotomize our newborn by touching that eerily

Pick up the book and it all

rushes back. The confusion that comes with the first child. The terrified certainty that the 4-year-old's slight headache picion that the one-year-old biter will inevitably progress to the 20-year-old serial killer. The desire to be given the one true answer, to be told the thing that will make us really, really good parents, or if not that, at least that will get

the kids to stop whining.
From the beginning, when words, "Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do," Dr. Spock said he wanted to teach parents that he did not have all the answers. But that, of course, is what we seek from him and other advice vendors. All the answers.

We pick up such books when we are at our most vulnerable, seeking companionship and information. The kid won't eat, or the kid eats too much. This one has a weird rash, that one seems determined to

wear diapers until college. Or per-haps the problem is the adults --- we don't know what to do about some crisis or other, we have stumbled, the improvisational dance of par-enthood has gone suddenly clumsy. "It's endemic in caring," Dr. Brazelton said. "Once you care a post,"

great deal, you want to do a perfect job, when there is no such thing." Dr. Spock's tone of supportive warmth, his faith in the potential of the child and the wisdom of the parent, only fed into the conservative critique that he ruined a gen-

'60s were his fault. All those kids grew up pre-Spock, when the advice liked kids and he liked parents. It is who were allowed to suck their thumbs and wear diapers forever, them with kisses and attention. whose parents worried so much about their "needs." grew up into hippies, yuppies and other mon-sters of self-indulgence. "I was raised being picked up

scream in between times," said

"They needed a whipping st," Dr. Brazelton said of the Roinhe, author of "Fruitful: A Real Mother in the Modern World." critics. "I think he caught a lot of flak. If he hadn't, someone else would have gotten it.'

Actually, the doctor never advocated a lifetime of thumb-suck- and order and control in the same ing. "He was not a progressive lunatic," the author Anne Roiphe everything perfectly, but there was said. She and her friends, raising a vast improvement from the '30s, derstand that child develop ment included a slow devel opment of control over instincts. Spock, in a scuse, was Freud's popularizer. Lithink the world would have been a much sadder, more rigid, less interesting place without him."

World's Daily Newspan

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Ampean optional sand whopes and it with painful.

That a baby doctor could arouse such gratitude and such oassionate attacks - and that he could be seen as one of the main forces behind the cultural history of his time only reflects how much power we believe resides in expens of any kind.

Like us, Dr. Spock vied to find the balance between understanding and discipline Ann Hulbert, who is writing a history of 20th-century childrearing experts, pointed out in an article in The New Yorker in 1996 that Dr. Spock revised and refined his advice many times, attempting to keep up with changes in family structure and expectations, and to respond to criticism - .... Are those of us raised on Dr.

Spock and his followers better off for being understood for being hugged and kissed and allowed to nurse on demand? Each Spock baby will have to answer that one for himself. But we do know that the man

from the experts was to keep babies there in his books — and to receive firmly scheduled and not include such affection as a reader is to receive a gift. Dr. Brazelton remembers walk-

ing once with Spock on a mountain in Puerto Rico. They came across a every four hours and then left to beautiful pool, cool and enticing. But a sign said that only guests at a particular hotel could swim there. "Suddenly, we understood there was a way of creating a mutual bond between the mother and the swim," Dr. Brazelton said, But

then a man recognized the 6-foot 4 pediatrician. 'The keeper of the child that didn't involve discipline way. It isn't that I think we did pool came out and said, 'Dr. Spock! You helped me raise my 13 children! Of course you can swim!" He was as welcome a guest in

that pool as he was in our lives.



Dr. Spock visiting Karen Anderson and her quintuplets in 1974.

#### PEOPLE

THE satire "Popcorn," which was written by Ben asthma attack, the country singer is scheduled to accident in 1995, she spent six months learning how to appear at an annual Easter Seals auction in Nashville, care for him. "We both felt it was important for us to the second appear at an annual Easter Seals auction in Nashville, care for him. "We both felt it was important for us to the second appear at an annual Easter Seals auction in Nashville, care for him." Hollywood films, won seven nominations for this year's Moliere theater awards in France, including those for best producer and best new play. Right behind it was "André le Magnifique," a collective production that was nominated six times. The Italian playwright and Nobel Prize winner Dario Fo will preside over the awards ceremony on April 6.

The French painter Balthus, 90, has gone home from the hospital. Balthasar Klossowski, one of the few living artists to have been honored with an exa hospital at Saanen, Switzerland, on March 6, where a hospital source said he was suffering from a "treatable acute condition" and was "improvi

The comedian Al Franken has blurred the lines between news, entertainment and politics with his new sitcom "Lateline." The show is a '90s mix of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," "Murphy Brown" and 'Nightline" with a sense of humor.

Johnny Paycheck is ready to hit the stage. Thirty pounds lighter after a six-week stay in a hospital for an Tennessee, and then perform at the Grand Ole Opry. remain a couple." she told the Daily News in New Sand Tolers Sand Tolers Paycheck, 59, suffered the attack on Jan. 8. His weight is down to 157 pounds.

Dana Reeve wants to be more than her husband's nurse. She wants to get her own acting career in gear. People come up to me in elevators to tell me how much they admire me." she said. "I'm a very famous wife — but I'm still plodding along in my career." She is now appearing in "Good Will." a play based on a Jane Smiley novella about a young couple who move hibition of his work in the Louvre in Paris, was taken to to Arnish country. After her husband. Christopher,

The Getty's Forgetful Planners

The Associated Press LOS ANGELES — They forgot something at the Getty Museum: bathrooms. There are none in the North or South Pavilions and only one set in the West Pavilion. "This is one of those unfortunate things that can happen in large con-struction projects." a spokeswoman said. The

good news? Drinking fountains are scarce, too.

York. "I didn't want to be just his nurse."

More than 20 years after hanging up his guitar, the artist formerly known as Cat Stevens has surfaced to promote an album he helped record for victims of the introduction in the season State war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Yusuf Islam, as he is limited the Stieng Hu known now, wrote two songs on the album but sings make the claims N only one — "The Little Ones." He said in London that the album was "a reminder of the place that music plays in the life of a Muslim, and, indeed, in everyone's in the life." He plays no guitar on the album. "I don't feel 🗷 🕮 was paralyzed from the neck down in a horse-riding like it. I'm much more of a poet."

> The first novel about the life and death of Diana, and Princess of Wales, is about to hit British bookstands. the soiten an high, the being published by HarperCollins and fictionalizes the 🔼 🗽 👊 princess's story by renaming the people involved, the wholes have the object of the story by renaming the people involved, the wholes have the object of the a "serious and sensitive" work. But the newspaper he greated with review also reports that it detected similarities in style with Ingel in the large than the same than the s also reports that it detected similarities appearing in the ten Tienanmen Square and

satirical magazine Private Eye.

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